

## Law punishing fake heroes may go to Supreme Court

Pag A4

## Coast Guard searches for 6 missing boaters from NJ



ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. – Six New Jersey men failed to return from a weekend overnight fishing trip, and the Coast Guard was searching for their sport-fishing boat Monday off the coast of Massachusetts, where they might have issued a mayday call.

Thomas McDade said his father, Geoffrey, and 26-year-old brother, James, were among the group that left Saturday morning on a trip to catch tuna about 85 miles east of Atlantic City. They were to return Sunday morning and when they weren't home by the evening, Thomas McDade said his mother called authorities.

*Continued on Page A3*

## U.S. rescuers may have killed Afghanistan aid worker

HEIDI VOGT

ROBERT KENNEDY

Associated Press Writers


KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — At first, NATO blamed a Taliban bomb for the death of a captive British aid worker during an American rescue attempt in eastern Afghanistan.

Two days later, the coalition changed its account, saying Monday that U.S. forces may have detonated a grenade that killed Linda Norgrove during the operation to free her.

British Prime Minister David Cameron defended Friday's rescue mission, saying his government authorized it only after learning that Norgrove's life was in grave danger. The U.S. military, which carried out the raid because the aid worker was being held in a region under American command, said it would investigate the incident with British cooperation.

In Brussels, NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen emphasized that "whatever happened, I would like to stress that those who are responsible of course are the captors."

*Continued on Page A6*



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## 4th Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival exceeds expectations

ORANJESTAD - Guess what: the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival 2010 is just behind us, but preparations for the 5th edition are already starting.

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performance of TimbAche making lasting impressions. From organizer Erik Eman and his super crew a huge 'thank you' goes to all the sponsors, the great performers, the enthusiastic vendors and the absolutely wonderful audience which have made the 2010 edition of the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival into such a major success. And now on towards the 2011 anniversary of the event!

Picture show organizer Erik Eman with headliner of his festival Marcus Miller.

*More Sea Jazz Festival on Page A10*



# Private spaceship makes first solo glide flight



MOJAVE, Calif. – Virgin Galactic's space tourism rocket SpaceShipTwo achieved its first solo glide flight Sunday, marking another step in the company's eventual plans to fly paying passengers.

SpaceShipTwo was carried aloft by its mothership to an altitude of 45,000 feet and released over the Mojave Desert. After the separation, SpaceShipTwo, manned by two pilots, flew freely for 11 minutes before landing at an airport runway followed by the mothership. The entire test flight lasted about 25 minutes. "It flew beautifully," said Virgin Galactic chief executive George Whitesides. The six-passenger SpaceShipTwo is undergoing rigorous testing before it can carry tourists to space. In the latest test, SpaceShipTwo did not fire its rocket engine to climb to space. Until now, SpaceShipTwo has flown attached to the wing of its special jet-powered mothership dubbed WhiteKnightTwo. Sunday was the first time

the spaceship flew on its own. "It's a very big deal," Virgin president Sir Richard Branson told The Associated Press. "There are a number of big deals on the way to getting commercial space travel becoming a reality. This was a very big step. We now know that the spaceship glides. We know it can be dropped safely from the mothership and we know it can land safely. That's three big ticks." SpaceShipTwo will make a series of additional glide flights before rocketing to space. "The next big step will be the rocket tests actually on the spacecraft itself," Branson said. "We've obviously have done thousands of rocket tests on the ground, the next big test is in the air. We'll be doing gentle rocket tests in the air, ultimately

culminating into taking the spaceship into space." SpaceShipTwo, built by famed aircraft designer Burt Rutan, is based on a prototype that won a \$10 million prize in 2004 for being the first manned private rocket to reach space. Tickets to ride aboard SpaceShipTwo cost \$200,000. Some 370 customers have plunked down deposits totaling \$50 million, according to Virgin Galactic. Commercial flights will fly out of New Mexico where a spaceport is under construction. Officials from Virgin Galactic and other dignitaries will gather at the spaceport Oct. 22 for an event commemorating the finished runway. The event will also feature a flyover by SpaceShipTwo and WhiteKnightTwo. □

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## Report: College dropouts cost taxpayers billions

Dropping out of college after a year can mean lost time, burdensome debt and an uncertain future for students. Now there's an estimate of what it costs taxpayers. And it runs in the billions.

States appropriated almost

\$6.2 billion for four-year colleges and universities between 2003 and 2008 to help pay for the education of students who did not return for year two, a report released Monday says.

In addition, the federal

government spent \$1.5 billion and states spent \$1.4 billion on grants for students who didn't start their sophomore years, according to "Finishing the First Lap: The Cost of First-Year Student Attrition in America's Four-Year Colleges and Universities."

The dollar figures, based on government data and gathered by the nonprofit American Institutes for Research, are meant to put an economic exclamation point on the argument that college completion rates need improvement.

But the findings also could give ammunition to critics who say too many students are attending four-year schools — and that pushing them to finish wastes even more taxpayer money.

The Obama administration, private foundations and others are driving a shift from focusing mostly on making college more accessible to getting more students through with a diploma or certificate.

Mark Schneider, a vice president at the American Institutes for Research and former commissioner of the Education Department's National Center for Education Statistics, said the report's goal is to spotlight the costs of losing students after year one, the most common exit door in college.

"We're all about college completion right now, and I agree 100 percent with the college completion agenda and we need a better-educated adult population and workforce," Schneider said.

The report takes into



account spending on average per-student state appropriations, state grants and federal grants, such as Pell grants for low-income students, then reaches its cost conclusions based on student retention rates.

The cost of educating students who drop out after one year account for between 2 to 8 percent of states' total higher education appropriations, Schneider said. He said the report emphasizes state spending because states provide most higher education money and hold the most regulatory sway over institutions and can drive change.

Ohio, for example, has moved toward using course and degree completion rates in determining how much money goes to its public colleges and universities instead of solely using enrollment figures.

"We recognize an institution is not going to be perfect on graduation and completion rates," said Eric Fingerhut, chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents.

"But at the same time, we know they can do better than they're doing. And if you place the financial rewards around completion, then you will motivate that."

The AIR report draws from Department of Education data, which Schneider concedes does not provide a full picture.

The figures track whether new full-time students at 1,521 public and private colleges and universities return for year two at the same institution. It doesn't include part-timers, transfers or students who come back later and graduate.

The actual cost to taxpayers may run two to three times higher given those factors and others, including the societal cost of income lost during dropouts' year in college, said Richard Vedder, an Ohio University economics professor. And tying state appropriations to student performance could just cause colleges to lower their standards, he said.

Robert Lerman, an American University economics professor who, like Vedder, questions promoting college for all, said the report fleshes out the reality of high dropout rates. But he said it could just as easily be used to argue that less-prepared, less-motivated students are better off not going to college. "Getting them to go a second year might waste even more money," Lerman said. "Who knows?"

### MISSING BOATERS

#### Continued from Front Page

The search for the 32-foot vessel, Black Magic, initially focused on the area near where the men had planned to go fishing.

But a Coast Guard radio tower on Martha's Vineyard picked up a mayday call around 1 a.m. Monday, Coast Guard Petty Officer Jonathan Lindberg said. A recording of the call was played for families of the missing, one of whom recognized the voice as that of her husband.

The search then was expanded to include Martha's Vineyard, though the guard was continuing to search the area off New Jersey, he said. Two rescue helicopter crews from Atlantic City, a C-130 aircraft from Elizabeth City, N.C., and three Coast Guard boats from ports along the Jersey shore are searching.

Lindberg said there has been no contact with the boat since the mayday call, and no emergency beacon had been detected. The boat was equipped with an emergency positioning radio beacon, or EPIRB, which is designed to float free when the unit gets wet and automatically broadcast its position to rescuers.

The mayday call offered some hope that the boat hadn't capsized or sunk.

"I've been trying their cell phones, but they're too far off shore," said Thomas McDade. "There's nothing much we can do except hope and pray."

The weather in the area was mostly calm over the weekend, said Greg Heavener, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service's southern New Jersey office.

"The winds were fairly benign," he said. "There were a few spikes where it briefly reached 25 knots, but that was very, very quickly. There weren't any gales out there, and the seas were 3 to 5 feet, nothing out of the ordinary."

Geoffrey McDade is a diesel mechanic and James McDade is a machinist in the Navy.

The other men aboard were identified as Bernie Otremsky, of Haddon Township; Jerry Lewis, Ed Silcox and Ray Somerville, whose hometowns were not immediately available. Thomas McDade said several of them live near Forked River and most are experienced deep-sea fishermen.

Besides the EPIRB, the vessel carries an array of safety gear including a global positioning system, an autopilot, three VHF radios, a supplemental radio known as a single-sideband radio and an inflatable life raft, according to the boat's website. □





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# Law punishing fake heroes may go to Supreme Court



DENVER — The Justice Department is battling to save a federal law that makes it illegal to lie about being a war hero, appealing two court rulings that the statute is an unconstitutional muzzle on free speech.

The fight could be carried all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, where it would face an uncertain fate, legal analysts said.

"This is a Supreme Court

that is friendly to parties asserting speech rights and skeptical about restrictions on those rights," said Kannon Shanmugam, a former Justice Department official.

Supporters of the law take the opposite view.

"It could wind up being the kind of landmark decision that the Supreme Court is going to have to give very serious and very broad consideration to, and I think they'll come

down on our side," said Doug Sterner, a military historian.

The Stolen Valor Act makes it a crime punishable by up to a year in jail to falsely claim to have won a military medal, whether or not an impostor seeks financial gain.

A three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco and a federal district court in Denver have both ruled the law is unconstitutional on First Amendment grounds.

Last week, government lawyers in California asked the full 9th Circuit to reconsider the ruling, calling it a decision of "exceptional importance." Prosecutors noted that the three-judge panel was split 2-1 with sharply differing views, and that the law is also under challenge in Colorado.

The 9th Circuit hasn't said whether it will take a second look. In Colorado, prosecutors announced last week they would ask the 10th Circuit to overturn the district court decision. That appeal is expected to be filed in early November.

The Stolen Valor Act, which breezed through Congress in 2006, revised and toughened an existing statute that forbade anyone to wear a military medal that was not earned. The California and Colorado cases were among the early prosecutions under the newly strengthened law.

Xavier Alvarez, a local water board official from Pomona, Calif., was indicted in 2007 after saying at a public forum that he was a retired Marine who received the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military decoration. Alvarez apparently never served in the military.

Alvarez pleaded guilty on condition that he be allowed to appeal on First Amendment grounds. The 9th Circuit ruled in his favor in August.

His attorney, Jonathan Libby, said Friday he believes both the full 9th Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court would also find the law unconstitutional. Rick Glen Strandlof, who founded a veterans group in Colorado Springs, was arrested in 2009 after claiming he was an ex-Marine who was wounded in Iraq and had received the Purple Heart and Silver Star. The Marine Corps said it had no record that Strandlof ever served.

A Denver federal judge threw out the case against Strandlof in July.

Strandlof's attorney, Robert Pepin, said he is optimistic about winning at the appeals court or at the Supreme Court. "It really ends up being a very interesting argument, with solid arguments on our side and strongly articulated arguments on their side," he said.

If government lawyers can't persuade the appeals courts to revive the law, they will likely ask the Supreme Court to hear the case, said Shanmugam, who served as the Justice Department's assistant solicitor general under President George W. Bush. The solicitor general is the government's top lawyer in arguments before the Supreme Court.

"When a federal court declares a federal statute unconstitutional, the solicitor general feels a strong obligation to defend the statute, where a reasonable argument can be made," Shanmugam said.

Shanmugam and others cited two 2010 Supreme Court rulings as indicators that the justices might overturn the Stolen Valor Act.

In one, the court overturned campaign spending limits on corporations and unions, and in the other it struck down a federal ban on videos that show graphic violence to

animals. Both were viewed as free-speech cases.

Jonathan Turley, a professor at George Washington University Law School, said the Stolen Valor Act answers no real legal need but was written for political reasons, so lawmakers could show they are on the side of real heroes by punishing impostors.

"There's already a considerable deterrent for people who are engaged in this kind of conduct," he said. "Many of these people are charged with fraud. If someone is only wearing medals without seeking any form of gain, it becomes highly questionable."

Eugene Volokh, a UCLA law professor, said the court traditionally requires the government to prove it has a compelling interest to restrict free speech, which could be difficult in this case.

"I don't think that anybody's going to stop being a brave soldier, or be a less brave soldier, or have less respect for a brave soldier, because some number of people lie about it," he said. Sterner, the military historian, said he believes the law has a good chance of surviving, citing the divided vote by the three-judge panel of the 9th Circuit.

"The fact that we had a 2-1 split bodes well at the 9th Circuit," said Sterner, whose wife, Pam, wrote a policy analysis in college that became the basis of the bill.

The bill's author in Congress, Colorado Democratic Rep. John Salazar, defended the law and said the rulings against it were misguided.

"You go out and you sacrifice and you earn these awards because of heroism. If somebody comes and tries to act like a hero, it kind of degrades what they did," he said. "It's defending their honor, as I see it." □



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# DA: Anti-gay NYC attack laced with hate speech

NEW YORK

— Gang members used an anti-gay slur to ask two teen boys and a 30-year-old man about their sexuality before brutally torturing and beating them last week in a working-class Bronx neighborhood, authorities said in court, where eight suspects stood with drooped heads at their first appearance as their relatives wept behind them. During the proceeding Sunday, Assistant District Attorney Theresa Gottlieb said that each victim was asked prior to being beaten in the Oct. 3 attacks: “Is it true that you’re a fag?”

The defendants did not enter pleas to charges that include robbery, assault, sexual abuse and unlawful imprisonment as hate crimes. The most serious charge carried a potential 25-year prison term. Police were looking for a ninth suspect, who had been expected to turn himself in but didn’t show.

The nine men, members of the Latin King Goonies gang, had heard a rumor one of their teenage recruits was gay and on the night of Oct. 3, found him, stripped and beat him and sodomized him with a plunger handle until he confessed to having had sex with a man, police say. The gang members then found a second teen they suspected was gay and tortured him, police say.

They also invited the man the first teen had admitted

having sex with to a house, telling him they were having a party, police say. When he arrived, five of them burned, beat and tortured him for hours, police say.

The man was sodomized with a miniature baseball bat by a defendant who taunted him with, “You like that. You like that,” the criminal complaint said.

Two of his attackers went to his home, court papers and authorities said, where they encountered the man’s brother. They punched him, bound his hands with rope, put tape around his head before and threw a mattress on top of him, authorities said, and demanded money and jewelry and threatened him with death before leaving with cash and a 52-inch flat-screen television.

The suspects were identified as Ildefonso Mendez, 23; Elmer Confresi, 23; David Rivera, 21; Steven Caraballo, Denis Peitars, Nelson Falu and Bryan Almonte, all 17; and Brian Cepeda, 16.

Bronx Criminal Court Judge Harold Adler set bail for Peitars and Caraballo at \$100,000 bond or \$50,000 cash; the other six were held without bail.

Two attorneys, Paul Horowitz and Fred Bittlingmeyer, represented the eight at the hearing but didn’t expect to represent all of them through the legal process.

Bittlingmeyer, representing Peitars, said his client

only punched one of the complainants after the other defendants said they “were going to find out who the men are in this room and who the fags are in this room.”

Bittlingmeyer said if Peitars didn’t throw a punch he would have been attacked himself. He also denied it was a scheme by a gang, describing it as people getting together on a Sunday night and “one individual let it get out of hand.”

Horowitz, representing Caraballo, said his client had not previously been in trouble with the law and denies the allegations. He said the only offense of which Caraballo was accused was hitting one of the complainants with his fist.

Falu’s mother, Caroline Falu, said her son is a “good boy.”

“I just know my son is innocent,” she said. “I know my son. He’s not like that.” Mayor Michael Bloomberg said he was sickened by the accusations of violence “and saddened by the anti-gay bias.” The beatings in the Bronx followed a string of anti-gay attacks and teen suicides attributed to anti-gay bullying.

Gay men and women live openly in Morris Heights, the largely Hispanic neighborhood where the Oct. 3 beatings took place, and while residents were disturbed by some past violent behavior blamed on the defendants, some



said they hadn’t previously targeted homosexuals.

On Sunday, outside the four-story brick building where police say the assaults happened, a police officer was posted in three-wheeled scooter, and crime scene tape stretched across the bottom of it. Children played in the street in front of the home, which faces Primary School 226.

An assortment of colorful flowers were laid in front of the home with a sympathy card that read: “Prayers for healing for our community.”

Two blocks away, young men stood on the corner outside the building where the 30-year-old victim and his brother live in a fifth-floor walk-up. A sign at the building’s entrance warned that it was patrolled by the police department’s Operation Clean Halls.

In the deli on the main floor of the building, Jose Aurelio said the 30-year-old victim stopped in every morning on his way to the bus, often just to say hello.

“He comes here every day, happy, nice,” he said. “Everybody liked him.” □







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In this undated black and white photo made available Saturday Oct. 9, 2010, from the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) showing kidnapped British aid worker Linda Norgrove, who was being held by Afghan captors, who has been killed during a rescue attempt by NATO forces. The aid worker, identified as Linda Norgrove, was killed Friday Oct. 8, 2010, night by her captors during an operation to free her, Foreign Secretary William Hague said in a statement from London.

*Associated Press*




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#### AID WORKER

*Continued from Front Page*

The U.S.-led NATO force has historically been slow to acknowledge friendly fire deaths in Afghanistan. Drawn-out investigations mean findings can come weeks or months after an incident. But an increased focus on preventing civilian deaths has led NATO over the past year to push for quicker reporting on mistakes.

Norgrove, 36, from Scotland's Isle of Lewis, worked on a U.S.-funded aid project for Development Alternatives Inc., a Bethesda, Maryland-based organization. She was abducted in an ambush on Sept. 26 while driving toward Asadabad, the capital of Kunar province, according to Afghan officials. She was to oversee projects in the area. Three Afghan colleagues were also captured in the ambush but all were later released.

Norgrove died Friday night — nearly two weeks after being captured — when U.S. special forces stormed the Taliban compound where she was being held in Kunar province.

In its initial statement Saturday, NATO said Norgrove was killed when captors detonated a bomb during the attack.

But then the rescue mission leader saw surveillance footage of the incident, had discussions with other team members and decided "it was not conclusive what the cause of her death was," said Lt. Col. John Dorrian, a spokesman at NATO headquarters in Kabul.

When the rescue team assaulted the Taliban hideout, they came under fire from within the compound as well as from an overwatch position nearby, Dorrian said Monday.

"It was a very high elevation area, very very challenging terrain," Dorrian said. All six gunmen who fought back against the U.S. force were killed, along with Norgrove. He said women and children in the compound were not injured and that no one on the U.S. rescue team was wounded. Dorrian did not provide details on how long the fighting lasted, the size of the force or what weaponry they used.

In London, Cameron said that the U.S. and NATO commander in Afghanistan, Gen. David Petraeus, informed him that Norgrove was possibly killed by a grenade detonated by a member of the rescue team. Cameron said he told Norgrove's family of the "deeply distressing development," and defended the decision to attempt the risky rescue mission.

"We were clear that Linda's life was in grave danger and the operation offered the best chance of saving her life," Cameron told reporters at a news conference at 10 Downing St.

"I want to assure Mr. and Mrs. Norgrove that I will do everything I possibly can to establish the full facts and give them certainty about how their daughter died," he added. Norgrove's father, John, said the family had no comment.

Cameron said Norgrove's family had been kept informed of the decision, which was made by Foreign Secretary William Hague with his full support.

Cameron's office said the prime minister spoke by telephone with President Barack Obama, who expressed his condolences and said U.S. authorities would cooperate on the investigation into what had

happened.

Hague, in a statement before the House of Commons, said Norgrove's captors intended to "pass her further up the Taliban command chain."

He said intensive efforts to locate Norgrove began immediately after her abduction, including increased military operations in the area where she was taken and leaflet drops offering a reward for information about her whereabouts.

Hague said he had authorized a rescue operation from day one but bad weather prevented an earlier rescue attempt.

Norgrove had worked in Afghanistan for years on various aid projects, spoke the language and was "dedicated to Afghanistan," according to a statement released by her employer. Her projects mainly involved working with farmers or on environmental protection programs.

She had donned a burqa — a body-covering robe worn by many Afghan women — for the trip during which she was kidnapped, local police said.

It wasn't the first time in Afghanistan that an operation to rescue an abducted Briton ended in bloodshed. In September 2009, Stephen Farrell, a reporter for The New York Times, and Sultan Munadi, an Afghan journalist and interpreter who worked regularly with the Times and other news organizations, were taken hostage when they went to cover the aftermath of a NATO airstrike that killed scores of civilians in northern Afghanistan.

Munadi and a British commando died in the raid that rescued Farrell, a Briton. British forces said they had to leave Munadi's body behind because they were coming under such heavy fire. □



# Iran's hardliners target moderate stronghold

ALI AKBAR DAREINI  
NASSER KARIMI

Associated Press Writers

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran's leader issued a decree Monday paving the way for a state takeover of the country's largest private university, in a crushing blow to the nation's moderates.

The Islamic Azad University is the center of power for former President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, a pragmatist and key supporter of Iran's moderates. The institution, which was founded in 1982, was a major site for opposition protests against the 2009 disputed re-election of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, which opponents say was fraudulent. Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's decree declared the university's endowment, which keeps it financially independent, to be religiously illegitimate and therefore null and void.

The endowment, or vaqf in

Farsi, was set up in 2009, shortly after the elections by the university board to keep the it independent in the face of the rising power of hardliners in the ruling system.

The university, which has more than one 1.3 million students in over 350 branches nationwide, allowed opposition candidate Mir Hossein Mousavi free access to its huge resources during his election campaign, allowing his voice to be heard all over Iran.

Ever since, Ahmadinejad and his extremist camp have intensified efforts to strip Rafsanjani of this multibillion dollar power house. The assets of the university are estimated to be around \$250 billion.

The endowment was challenged by Ahmadinejad's supporters and after the elections, the courts, parliament and various councils allied to different factions within the ruling system battled over the fate of the university.

Khamenei's decision is a public

humiliation of Rafsanjani and a huge boost to his archenemy Ahmadinejad and his extremist supporters.

In his decree, Khamenei said he had tasked two delegations comprised of legal experts and scholars headed by one of his supporters with conducting an "in depth and comprehensive" study of the issue and the final result found the endowment to be illegitimate.

"The endowment has major legal and jurisprudential problems including the legitimacy of the endowment and the competence of the university's founders to create it," Khamenei said, according to the state news agency.

Azad University is considered a private institution and is supposed to be immune from state interference.

But Khamenei, who has final say on all state matters, said the university would be neither private nor government-controlled, possibly meaning that it will now be under his



Lebanese workers, set a poster for the Iranian supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, left, and for the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the father of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, right, at the highway of Beirut international airport, Lebanon, on Monday, Oct. 11, 2010, ahead of the Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad visit to Lebanon that begins on October 13.

Associated Press

own control.

It was not immediately clear how Rafsanjani and his moderate supporters will react to the ruling but the savvy politician said last month that annulling the endowment would be tantamount to fighting God.

"I don't think God will let anybody to disallow this endowment. And if somebody does that, God will be stronger than him and one day will take endowment back," he said at

the time.

Rafsanjani said four legal scholars, including himself and Hasan Khomeini, grandson of the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the father of Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution, had approved the endowment.

Khamenei, who backed Ahmadinejad as the winner of the disputed 2009 election, has publicly distanced himself from Rafsanjani, saying last year, that his views were closer to that of the president. □

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# Israeli PM offers conditional settlements freeze



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu speaks at the opening of the winter session in the Knesset, Israel's parliament, in Jerusalem, Monday, Oct. 11, 2010. Netanyahu offered to renew a moratorium on Jewish settlement construction in the West Bank on Monday, but only if the Palestinians meet his demand to recognize Israel as a Jewish state.

*Associated Press*

## Rwandan rebel leader arrested in Paris

MIKE CORDER

Associated Press Writer

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — A Rwandan rebel accused of orchestrating a humanitarian catastrophe against Congolese villagers in a blackmail scheme to leverage more political power for his group in Kigali was arrested in Paris on Monday, the International Criminal Court said.

Callixte Mbarushimana (pronounced KA-lix-t em-ba-ROO-shee-mana), a leader of the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda, known by its French acronym FDLR, was taken into custody on a secret warrant issued two weeks ago by the Hague-based tribunal.

Alain Gauthier, who heads an advocacy group for Rwandan genocide survivors, praised the arrest but said Mbarushimana also should be tried for the 1994 Rwandan genocide.

The court said he was charged with 11 counts of crimes against humanity and war crimes, including murder, rape, persecution based on gender and extensive destruction of property committed by the FDLR in 2009.

According to court papers, Mbarushimana and other FDLR leaders are accused of "having used violence against civilians as their main bargaining tool" in an international campaign to extort from Rwanda and the international community political power for the FDLR.

In a statement summarizing allegations against Mbarushimana, the court said the rebels deliberately sparked "a massive humanitarian catastrophe" then offered to end the atrocities in exchange for political power.

"As a result of this deadly blackmail, victims were killed, raped, and forcibly displaced, and entire villages were razed to the ground," the court alleged.

No date has been set for Mbarushimana to be transferred from Paris to The Hague.

The French Foreign Ministry said in a statement the arrest "shows France's constant will to fight impunity."

In Congo, government spokesman Lambert Mende also welcomed the arrest. □

ARON HELLER,

Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday said for the first time that he would extend the settlement restrictions in the West Bank — if the Palestinians recognize Israel as the Jewish national homeland.

The idea, while innocuous to Israel's supporters, is widely seen as undermining the rights of Arab Israelis, and was immediately rejected by the Palestinians. But it could signal that Netanyahu is willing to bend and save a U.S.-led peace effort in exchange for a different concession.

The expiration of Israel's 10-month moratorium on new settlement building two weeks ago thrust the month-old U.S.-led peace negotiations with the Palestinians into crisis.

The Palestinians are refusing to continue negotiating with Israel as long as settlement building continues, but Netanyahu has insisted the curb on construction was a one-time gesture.

The U.S. administration has been scrambling for weeks to find a creative way out of the quagmire and satisfy both sides and has put heavy pressure on Netanyahu to extend the slowdown, while offering a slew of incentives.

In a policy speech marking a new session of parliament, Netanyahu offered his own formula to move forward.

"If the Palestinian leadership would say unequivocally to its people that it recognizes Israel as the national homeland of the Jewish people, I will be willing to convene my government and ask for an additional suspension," he said, in a speech that was heckled by some lawmakers.

"As the Palestinian expect that we will recognize a Palestinian state as their national homeland, we are entitled to expect that they will recognize Israel as our national homeland," he said.

Netanyahu has made similar demands in the past, though he has never explicitly linked it to the settlement issue. On Sunday, Netanyahu's Cabinet passed a bill that would require non-Jewish immigrants to pledge allegiance to the "Jewish and democratic" state of Israel in order to receive citizenship.

The move is widely seen as undermining the rights of Israel's Arabs who make up a fifth of Israel's 7.5 million people.

The Palestinians also refuse to accept Israel as a Jewish state, saying it violates the rights of millions of Palestinian refugees scattered around the world. Instead, they say it is sufficient that they recognize Israel's right to exist.

Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said the idea was "unacceptable" and accused Netanyahu of "playing games" in his address and said he saw no connection between Jewish

settlements and Israel's national character.

"I don't see a relevance between his obligations under international law and him trying to define the nature of Israel," he said. "I hope he will stop playing these games and will start the peace process by stopping settlements."

Some 300,000 Jewish settlers live in the West Bank, in addition to nearly 200,000 Israelis living in Jewish neighborhoods in east Jerusalem.

The Palestinians claim both areas, captured by Israel in the 1967 Mideast war, as parts of a future independent state and say that continued Israeli settlement construction sends a message that Israel is not serious about reaching peace.

Netanyahu counters that the Palestinians — by demanding a complete settlement freeze — are imposing preconditions that should be sorted out in the course of direct negotiations.

He said his demand was no such condition.

"But there is no doubt that such a step by the Palestinians would be a confidence building measure that will open a new horizon of trust and faith among large portions of Israeli society who in light of events of the past decade have lost their faith in the Palestinians to end the conflict," he said.

Arab lawmakers heckled Netanyahu throughout his address. "This is a ridiculous proposal!" yelled Ahmad Tibi.

Right-wing lawmakers also heckled the suggestion that the moratorium could be extended.

It remains unclear whether Netanyahu proposed it knowing it would be rejected, or whether the offer signals a true willingness to break the deadlock — perhaps in exchange for another incentive, from either the Palestinians or Americans.

Netanyahu has been under heavy international pressure to renew the settlement slowdown. U.S. mediators have been offering Israel a series of vague assurances and incentives on the security and diplomatic fronts to get Israel to extend its settlement moratorium.

Netanyahu, who leads a pro-settler coalition of religious and nationalist parties, has resisted the calls thus far, but has signaled he is open to a compromise.

Meanwhile, a senior Palestinian negotiator lashed out at the United States for trying to mollify Israel with incentives.

"It's strange how the violator, who hadn't fulfilled his commitments, is given rewards and guarantees to lure him to implement what must be implemented," Nabil Shaath said.

Since Israel's 10-month moratorium on new building starts expired on Sept. 26, peace talks have stalled less than a month after they were launched at the White House.

Over the weekend, the 22-member Arab League gave the Palestinians another month to reach a compromise. □



# Dramatic endgame nears for trapped Chile miners

FRANK BAJAK  
VIVIAN SEQUERA

Associated Press Writers

SAN JOSE MINE, Chile (AP)

— They'll come up one by one in green overalls bearing their names on their chests — first the fittest, then the weakest, twisting in a steel cage that proved itself with four flawless test runs deep into the earth.

The dramatic endgame hastened Monday for the 33 Chilean miners who have braved two months underground, with rescuers reinforcing the escape shaft and the 13-foot-tall rescue chamber sliding, as planned, nearly all the way to the trapped men.

"It didn't even raise any dust," Mining Minister Laurence Golborne said.

If all goes well, everything will be in place late Tuesday to begin pulling the men out, officials said. The lead psychologist for the rescue team recommended the extractions begin at dawn Wednesday. No official decision was announced, but Andre Sougarret, the rescue team coordinator, tweeted Monday evening that "today the miners sleep their last night together!"

On Monday, the Phoenix I capsule — the biggest of three built by Chilean navy engineers, named for the mythic bird that rose from ashes — made its first test run after the top 180 feet of the shaft was encased in tubing, the rescue leader said.

Then the empty capsule was winched 2,000 feet, just 40 feet short of the shaft system that has been the miners' refuge since an Aug. 5 collapse.

"We didn't send it (all the way) down because we could risk that someone will jump in," a grinning Golborne told reporters.

Engineers had planned to extend the piping nearly twice as far, but they decided to stop after the sleeve — the hole is angled 11 degrees off vertical at its top before plumbing down, like a waterfall — became jammed during a probe.

Rescue team psychologist Alberto Iturra said he recommended the first man

be pulled out at dawn because the miners are to be taken by Chilean air force helicopters to the nearby city of Copiapo and fog tends to enshroud the mine at night.

It is a roughly 10-minute flight, said Lt. Col. Aldo Carbone, the choppers' squadron commander. He said the pilots have night-vision goggles but will not fly unless it is clear. Ambulances will be ready for backup. The drive would take about an hour.

Officials have drawn up a secret list of which miners should come out first, but the order could change after paramedics and a mining expert first descend in the capsule to evaluate the men and oversee the journey upward. First out will be the four fittest of frame and mind, said health minister Jaime Manalich. Next will be 10 who are weakest or ill. One miner suffers from hypertension. Another is a diabetic, and others have dental and respiratory infections or skin lesions from the mine's oppressive humidity.

The last out is expected to be Luiz Urzua, who was shift chief when the men became entombed, several family members of miners told the AP, speaking on condition of anonymity because they did not want to upset government officials.

The men will take a twisting, 20-minute ride for 2,041 feet up to the surface. It should take about an hour for the rescue capsule to make a round trip, Aguilar told The Associated Press. Golborne said all would be ready by 12:01 a.m. Wednesday. Officials wanted to make sure the concrete around the steel tubing at the top of the shaft set, he said.

Plans called for the media to be blocked by a screen from viewing the miners when they reach the surface. A media platform has been set up more than 300 feet away from mouth of the hole.

After being extracted, the miners will be ushered through inflatable tunnels, like the ones used in sports stadiums, to ambulances that will take them to a triage station. Once cleared by doctors there, they are to be taken to another area



Workers assemble machinery to be used in the rescue operation for 33 trapped miners in the San Jose mine near Copiapo, Chile, Monday Oct. 11, 2010. Rescuers on Monday finished reinforcing the hole drilled to bring 33 trapped miners to safety and sent a rescue capsule nearly all the way to where the men are trapped. The miners became trapped when the gold and copper mine collapsed on Aug. 5 and are expected to be rescued starting Wednesday.

Associated Press

where they'll be reunited with one to three family members chosen by each miner.

After the reunion, the miner will be driven to a heliport for the flight to Copiapo.

Iturra, who has tightly managed the miners' underground lives to keep them fit and busy, turned his attention Monday to their families. Just as the

miners will need time to adjust once they have surfaced, so will their families, he said.

Iturra recommended they leave the tent city where they have kept vigil, which is increasingly besieged by journalists. It sprang up amid piles of rock at the copper and gold mine isolated in the coastal desert of Atacama.

"They need to get their feet firmly back on the ground as well," he said. "That's why I sent them home to sleep."

A torrent of emotions awaits the miners when they finally rejoin the outside world.

As trying as it has been for them to survive underground for 68 days, the mine is at least terra cognita. □

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*Standing out among the outstanding*

# Fantastic Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival draws thousands of music lovers



ORANJESTAD - The fourth edition of the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival, held this past weekend at Cas di Cultura, was a blast: two days of superb musicians, terrific bands, a great atmosphere and thousands of music lovers who sampled and savored the various music styles on offer. Whether it was Latin rhythms, the blues, traditional or smooth jazz performed by local bands or internationally acclaimed musicians: they all received enthusiastic applause, cheers and admiration.

The art gallery was a success, as was the new addition of movies to the festival; at the food court one could get refueled for more and more great music. Organizer Erik Eman and his team of dedicated workers can look back on a terrific event. Standing out among the outstanding was undoubtedly the riveting show of bass legend



Marcus Miller, decidedly the festival's headliner to start with; he fulfilled his claim to fame with verve and passion to the joy of thousands of an enthusiastic audience. Other passionate and unforgettable performances were by two ladies: singer Grana Louise, whose renditions of fabulous blues songs coupled with her sexy, charming personality got her audience wild. The other lady was Karen Briggs, who played the strings off her electric violin with her virtuoso play. Lao Tizer and his band called Tizer were fabulous, competing with Karen, driving the level of play higher and higher. Incredible! Issac Delgado's

performance with his 12-men band showed a totally different variety in jazz music, but one that had the audience in goose bumps the entire time. Of course these were not the only highlights: Sazon Cubano was truly terrific as was Ivan Jansen, Serghio Jansen, super Red Fulka with superb Roël Callister, Timbache, Datapanik, Mystical Connection, SMRW (Skol di Musica), big band Swing Design and Offshore. They were all top! Filled to the brim with outstanding jazz, the 2010 Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival can be summarized with one word only: incredible! □

~ Photos by Julia Renfro





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*Associates Are Enthusiastic and Are Ready For The Challenge*

## Aruba Marriott Launches "Biggest Loser" Competition



PALM BEACH – The Associates Relations Committee (ARC) of the Aruba Marriott launched the "Biggest Loser" competition for associates on Wednesday October 6. The initiative of this competition is to encourage associates to exercise and to eat healthy daily. The challenge is to compete with teams of five contestants. The team that loses the most body fat and kilos together within two months wins the "Biggest Loser" competition.

On Wednesday over 119 associates signed up combining 23 teams for the big challenge. The

team of Mission under the guidance of Rene Wild and Carol Alders was present to educate the associates about eating healthy and to weigh the participants. To start the competition with a big bang, associates had the opportunity to join a "mission" class after the lecture. Mission's team encouraged participants to train weekly at the Mission sessions as a part of the "Biggest Loser" competition funded by Marriott's Associates Relations Committee. As a team the participants will motivate each other to lose weight and exercise on a regularly basis in order to



compete with other teams. The Aruba Marriott thanks the Mission team for their cooperation and wishes all participants the best of luck during the competition. May the biggest loser win. Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino boasts 411 guestrooms – the most spacious on the island -- each with large, private balconies

overlooking lush landscape and the sparkling waters of the Caribbean Sea. On property, seven restaurants and cafes provide fare from light to elegant, while the largest casino in Aruba, a 6,500 square-foot spa, free-form swimming pool with cascading waterfalls and high-energy health club offer entertaining

diversions. To obtain more information call the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino at 888-PARADISE or visit [www.arubamarriott.com](http://www.arubamarriott.com). Connect with the Aruba Marriott's official Facebook fan page by visiting [www.facebook.com/ArubaMarriott](http://www.facebook.com/ArubaMarriott) and follow on Twitter @ArubaMarriott. □





*Hosting Rehearsal Dinner at Amazonia*

# Susie & Shawn get Married in Aruba 10-10-10



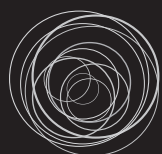
PALM BEACH -- Susie Jaidullo and Shawn Larve, from NJ, came to Aruba with more than 40 family members and friends to get married on 10-10-10, on the beach as they are staying at the Marriot Aruba Resort. The love-birds have been here before, two times, first to become engaged, and secondly to make all party arrangements for the big day. It is also their third trip to Amazonia Churrascaria, which they



love, hosting their rehearsal dinner there knowing their friends would love it as well. Pictures here Susie Jaidullo and Shawn Larve, Bride & Groom extraordinaire. □







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# RCA defeats Estrella 2 - 0 in Aruba's Honor Division Soccer

DAKOTA - The Oranjestad soccer team of RCA last night, Sunday, October 10, 2010, defeated rival team Estrella of Sta. Cruz with a 2 - 0 score in the Guillermo Prospero Trinidad Stadium in Dakota. The current Aruba Honor Division amateur soccer championship entered its second round this weekend. The above image depicts a RCA striker (at full left) entering the goal area of Estrella as two defensive players of the opposing team are in pursuit to try to foil the attack. □

(Photos by Anthony Carlo)



# Britannia triumphs over Caravel 2 - 1

DAKOTA - The island's last year's Honor Division amateur soccer champions Britannia of the neighborhood of Piedra Plat defeated newcomer Caravel of the neighborhood of Sta. Cruz 2 - 1 in Sunday night's, October 10, 2010, soccer match held in the Guillermo Prospero Trinidad Stadium in Dakota. Caravel, which has just promoted to the island highest division of amateur soccer, was able to offer significant resistance to Britannia, but the defending champions were just a class above. Britannia striker Maurice Escalona is seen in the center of the above photo in a duel with Caravel defender Wilson Mestiza Arboledo (at right) while Caravel defender John Diego Alzate (at left) looks on. □

(Photo by Anthony Carlo)



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# Loyal friends honored at the Bucuti Beach Resort



ORANJESTAD - Recently at the Bucuti Beach Resort vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for ten and 20 consecutive years. Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given the Distinguished Guest certificate and those with twenty consecutive years are awarded the

Ambassador of Goodwill title. The recent honoring were effected by the Aruba Tourism Authority associate Ricardo Croes at the Bucuti Beach Resort, they call their home away from home. The following guests were honored as Distinguished Visitor after visiting Aruba for 10 years : Lee & Patti Stang and also Carol & William Johnson Pictured ATA Rep. Ricardo Croes together with honorees and also Sr. Ewald Biemans from the Bucuti Beach Resort

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At the Occidental Grand Resort

# Gianilda & Washington say "I Do" at sunset



PALM BEACH - Mr. & Mrs. Washington & Gianilda Zurita were married last Friday afternoon just before the sun gently set into the sea at the Occidental Grand Resort. The lovely couple with their two sons, family and friends celebrated their love with marriage. The romantic beach blessing was officiated by Rev. Geoffrey and coordinated by Kimberley Dammerman, the wedding coordinator for the resort. The ceremony concluded with champagne and cake cutting ceremonies on the water's edge as the sky turned an array of colors in honor of the celebration. Congratulations from the Occidental Resort and Aruba Today. □

~ Photos by Julia Renfro



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*A truly perfect match:*

# Penfolds Wines with El Gaucho's cuisine



ORANJESTAD - A truly perfect match was made last Saturday evening when Romar Trading's Clive Faustin hosted a special wine dinner at popular El Gaucho restaurant. Held in honor of Mrs. Kris Shirley Endean, director of Sales of Banks Channel Ltd, representative of Australian Penfolds wines, the evening was spectacular. Kudos for El Gaucho chef Essy Winterdaal, who whipped up a delicious four-course dinner for the 50 plus guests that had been seated in the elegant dining

room of the restaurant. As the expert waiters poured, served and cleared away the plates, we had a chance to talk to Mrs. Endean.

"My company represents several brands that Romar Trading carries," said Kris, and she mentioned Penfolds, Graham's Port, Château St. Jean, Rodney Strong, Etude, Ramey, Concannon, Almaden, Glen Ellen and Lindemans as just a few. "Penfolds is one of the largest Australian brands, globally well-known. Australia is best known for



its spicy Shiraz, the most popular varietal, but because of its diversity in its climate, there are many different outstanding wines coming from that continent. Tonight will just be a tiny showcase," she said.

As the appetizer of jumbo shrimps with a spicy garlic sauce was served, glasses were filled with a delicious, full-flavored Penfolds Koonunga Hill Chardonnay 2006. Light and fruity, it had a subtle underlay of moderate oak. When the grilled lamb chops with mint jelly and

mashed potatoes graced the table, a Thomas Hyland Shiraz 2005 with flavors of cherry chocolate, plums and fruitcake created heavenly havoc on the palate.

A Penfolds Koonunga Hill Shiraz Cabernet 2006 with its classic, fruit-driven, full-bodied aroma of blackberries caused goose bumps: it was

outstanding with the Argentine tenderloin, mini pincho and grilled vegetables. And if one did not eat one's fill yet, superb Argentinian crêpes were served with Graham's Six Grapes Port.

A big hand for El Gaucho and for Romar Trading Company. This was a treat to remember! □







Europe's Lee Westwood reacts after putting on 15th hole on the second day of the 2010 Ryder Cup golf tournament at the Celtic Manor Resort in Newport, Wales, Saturday, Oct. 2, 2010.

*Associated Press*

### Westwood set to replace Woods as No. 1 on Oct. 31

GRAHAM OTWAY

Associated Press Writer

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland (AP) — Lee Westwood is set to replace Tiger Woods at the top of the rankings on Oct. 31 after saying Sunday he does not expect to play again until November because of an ankle injury.

The Englishman will go top if he does not return before the end of the month, and Woods continues with his intention not to play again until the HSBC Champions event from Nov. 4-7.

Westwood has been struggling with a right ankle injury and finished joint 11th at the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship won by Germany's Martin Kaymer.

Asked when he might play again, Westwood said: "At the earliest probably HSBC, maybe Dubai (Nov. 25-28).

Woods has topped the rankings for over five years, since the week before the 2005 U.S. Open at Pinehurst, North Carolina. Woods will have been top for 279 weeks in the rankings published on Monday.

Westwood said his injury had been troubling him for a while. □

### Report: Hall of Famer Tony Gwynn has cancer

This Jan. 30, 2006, file photo shows Hall of Fame baseball player and head coach of San Diego State's baseball team, Tony Gwynn, talking about the upcoming season while watching a practice, in San Diego.

*Associated Press*  
Page B6



## CLEVELAND ROCKS

*Falcons beat up Browns 20-10*



Cleveland Browns running back Peyton Hillis (40) leaps over Atlanta Falcons cornerback Brent Grimes (20) during the first quarter of an NFL football game Sunday, Oct. 10, 2010, in Cleveland.

*Associated Press*  
Next Page



## NFL Roundup

# Hart's TD run gives Colts 19-9 win over Chiefs

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Mike Hart scored the game's only touchdown on an 11-yard run with 4:02 to go as the Indianapolis Colts handed the Kansas City Chiefs their first loss of the season 19-9 on Sunday, leaving the NFL without any unbeaten teams. It's the first time since 1970 that no team has reached 4-0. The Colts (3-2) won in atypical fashion. For the first time this season, Peyton Manning failed to top 300 yards or throw for a touchdown. He finished 26-of-44 for 244 yards with one interception and couldn't get the Colts into the end zone until Hart's clinching score.

Cardinals 30, Saints 20

At Glendale, Arizona, Max Hall's debut as Arizona's quarterback was a winning one as the Cardinals defense intercepted three passes by Drew Brees.

The undrafted rookie from BYU completed 17 of 27 passes for 168 yards, Jay Feely kicked three field goals and Kerry Rhodes returned a fumble 27 yards for a score to lead the way.

## Raiders, 35 Chargers 27

At Oakland, California, Michael Bush ran 3 yards for the go-ahead touchdown with 3:39 remaining and Tyvon Branch returned a fumble 64 yards for a score as Oakland snapped a 13-game losing streak against San Diego.

All it took to end the seven-year drought for the Raiders (2-3) was two blocked two punts, two long touchdown drives in the second half led by backup quarterback Jason Campbell and the big play at the end by Branch and Michael Huff.

## Titans 34, Cowboys 27

At Arlington, Texas, Chris Johnson scored a pair of 1-yard touchdowns in the fourth quarter, lifting Tennessee over mistake-prone Dallas.

The Cowboys got behind 17-3 with penalties and errors on defense. Dallas managed to tie it at 17 and 20, then a tipped pass that was intercepted set up Johnson's first touchdown of the final period.

Eagles 27, 49ers 24



Indianapolis Colts running back Mike Hart extends to score a touchdown while being tackled by Kansas City Chiefs defensive back Kendrick Lewis (23) in the fourth quarter of an NFL football game in Indianapolis, Sunday, Oct. 10, 2010. Indianapolis won 19-9.

Associated Press

At San Francisco, Kevin Kolb passed for 253 yards while capably filling in for injured Michael Vick, and Quintin Mikell returned Alex Smith's fumble 52 yards for a touchdown early in the fourth quarter of Philadelphia's victory over winless San Francisco.

LeSean McCoy rushed for a score and Trevar Lindley made a last-minute interception for the Eagles (3-2), who forced five turnovers and survived San Francisco's late rally for their fifth straight win over the 49ers (0-5).

## Lions 44, Rams 6

At Detroit, Stefan Logan's 105-yard kickoff return broke a tie and sent the Lions to their first win of the season and ended a 10-game losing streak.

The win was the Lions' most-lopsided since beating the expansion Jacksonville Jaguars 44-0 in 1995.

Logan's franchise-record tying score helped the Lions (1-4) outscore St. Louis 21-3 in the second quarter, and they didn't let up.

At Baltimore, Ray Rice ran for 133 yards and two touchdowns as Baltimore frustrated Denver quarterback Kyle Orton.

Baltimore (4-1) jumped to a 17-0 lead and coasted to its third straight win, the first this season by double digits. The Ravens moved past idle Pittsburgh into sole possession of first place in the AFC North.

At Houston, Eli Manning threw two of his three touchdown passes to Hakeem Nicks and the Giants held Houston to a franchise-low 24 yards rushing.

Nicks finished with career highs of 12 catches and 130 yards, another big day for a receiver against the Texans' porous secondary. Manning finished 27 of 42 for 297 yards, and threw his third TD pass to Steve Smith in the fourth quarter.

At Landover, Maryland, Graham Gano kicked a 33-yard field goal 6:54 into overtime to lift Washington past Green Bay.

The winning score was set up by LaRon Landry's diving

interception of Aaron Rodgers at the Packers 39. The Redskins moved the ball with the help of two penalties to set up Gano's kick.

At Charlotte, North Carolina, Matt Forte rushed for 166 yards and two touchdowns, Julius Peppers had an acrobatic interception against his former team and Chicago overcame four interceptions by backup Todd Collins to keep Carolina winless.

Forte scored both his TDs in the first quarter, during which Peppers silenced a booing crowd in his first game back to Carolina with a diving interception to set up a field goal.

At Cleveland, defensive end Kroy Biermann's spectacular interception return for a touchdown in the fourth quarter led Atlanta over Cleveland.

After pressuring Browns quarterback Jake Delhomme, Biermann leaped to deflect the pass and then made a diving headfirst catch like a seasoned wide receiver. Knowing he had not been touched, Biermann scrambled to his

feet and rumbled 31 yards on a twisting, turning effort to give the Falcons a 20-10 lead with 4:01 left.

At Orchard Park, New York, tight end Mercedes Lewis caught two touchdowns passes as Jacksonville rallied from a 10-point deficit to keep Buffalo winless.

David Garrard shook off an interception and a lost fumble to throw for three touchdowns as the Jaguars (3-2) snapped a four-game road skid. Mike Sims-Walker's 7-yard touchdown put the Jaguars ahead for good, 27-20 lead late in the third quarter.

**In other NFL games it was Detroit 44, St. Louis 6; Baltimore 31, Denver 17; N.Y. Giants 34, Houston 10; Washington 16, Green Bay 13, OT; Chicago 23, Carolina 6; Atlanta 20, Cleveland 10; Jacksonville 36, Buffalo 26; Tampa Bay 24, Cincinnati 21; Indianapolis 19, Kansas City 9; Arizona 30, New Orleans 20; Tennessee 34, Dallas 27; Oakland 35, San Diego 27; and Philadelphia 27, San Francisco 24.** □



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## AP Source: Favre says sorry to Viking teammates

By RICHARD ROSENBLATT  
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — Brett Favre has apologized to the Minnesota Vikings for the distraction caused by an NFL investigation into allegations that he sent racy messages and lewd photos to a Jets game hostess in 2008.

A person with knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press that Favre spoke to his teammates Monday while they were preparing to play the New York Jets at New Meadowlands Stadium. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk publicly about the conversation.

ESPN first reported on Favre's apology.

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said Monday that the league is looking to "find out all the facts" regarding the Favre allegations and that once the investigation is finished "then we'll determine what the next step is from there, if any." Goodell spoke in Chicago, where he is attending league meetings. There was no indication from the NFL when the investigation would be complete or when the league would talk to Favre.

The NFL is trying to determine if Favre, a three-time MVP, violated its personal conduct policy. Should the league find he did, Favre could be fined or suspended.

"The first thing you want to do is find out the facts, and that's what we're trying to do," Goodell said. "We're trying to find out all the facts around it and then once we determine those facts, then we'll determine what the next step is from there, if any."

After a long stretch with Green Bay, where he won a Super Bowl, Favre played for New York in 2008 and then signed with the Vikings last year.

Last week, the website Deadspin posted a story which included several voicemails allegedly sent by Favre to Jenn Sterger, who worked for the Jets while Favre was with the team. The voicemails include a man asking to meet with Sterger, who

now is a TV personality for the Versus network. The website posted a video that contained the voicemails and several graphic photos — said to be of Favre — that were allegedly sent to Sterger's cell phone.

Sterger's manager, Phil Reese, has declined to say if his client is cooperating with the NFL or has retained a lawyer, but issued a statement Monday saying that "we're looking at all our options right now and our only concern is what's in Jenn's best interest."

Deadspin also reported that Favre pursued two female massage therapists who worked part time for the team, according to one of the women. Deadspin did not identify the women, but a Jets spokesman said the team was giving contact information for the two women to the league.

Favre's only public comment on the reports came last Thursday: "I'm not getting into that. I've



In this Sept. 19, 2010, file photo, Minnesota Vikings quarterback Brett Favre walks to the sideline after throwing an interception against the Miami Dolphins during an NFL football game in Minneapolis. The NFL says it is reviewing allegations involving the Vikings' Brett Favre, who the website Deadspin says sent racy messages and photos to a former sideline reporter while he played for the New York Jets.

*Associated Press*

got my hands full with the Jets and am trying to get some timing down with our guys, so that's all I'm going to discuss."

Even before last week's reports about Favre, the game had generated buzz because of his return to New York. The Vikings' trade for star receiver Randy Moss and the return of Jets All-Pro cornerback Darrelle Revis made the plot even thicker.

The Vikings-Jets matchup

is sure to draw a boisterous crowd to the New Meadowlands Stadium. According to the Jets, signs and banners are not permitted in the stadium. Violators will have the sign confiscated and are subject to ejection. Vikings coach Brad Childress said on Saturday that the reports have not been a distraction, and receiver Percy Harvin said the team was in full support of its quarterback. □

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# Jimmie Johnson sails as Chase challengers struggle

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — A piece of debris clung to the grill of Jimmie Johnson's car a mere 17 laps into the race at Auto Club Speedway, and for a bit, it appeared the four-time defending NASCAR champion was in some rare trouble.

As the garbage flapped off the front of his Chevrolet, the temperatures climbed to levels high enough to cause concern for Johnson and his Hendrick Motorsports team. It also created some wishful thinking from the championship contenders eager to see Johnson suffer a stroke of bad luck.

Alas, it wasn't to be.

A pit stop 21 laps later gave his crew a chance to clean the grill, and Johnson set sail for a third-place finish. Not so for many of his challengers, who one-by-one suffered through championship-crippling crisis during Sunday's race.



Jimmie Johnson drives during the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series auto race, Sunday, Oct. 10, 2010, in Fontana, Calif. Johnson finished in third place.

Now Johnson again sits atop the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship standings, and the list of drivers capable of dethroning him is dwindling. What was one of the tightest Chase in its seven year history at the start of the race — nine

drivers were separated by 101 points — was blown open three hours later when the checkered flag fell.

The unraveling began with a disastrous day for Roush-Fenway Racing. Greg Biffle's engine expired 40 laps into the

race, and a week after using a win at Kansas to get back into the title hunt, his chances had blown up in a plume of white smoke.

Then teammate Carl Edwards, the strongest of the three Roush contenders, had a problem

*Associated Press*

## Brazil wins 3rd straight volleyball title



From left, Brazil's Dante Guimaraes Amaral, Mario Jr. Da Silva Pereira, Sidnei Jr. Dos Santos and Leandro Vissotto Neves celebrate after winning the final match against Cuba, at the Men's Volleyball World Championships in Rome, Sunday, Oct. 10, 2010. Brazil won 3-1 and clinched the title.

*Associated Press*

ANDREW DAMPF

AP Sports Writer

ROME (AP) — Brazil's experience carried it to a third consecutive volleyball world title Sunday with a 3-0 shutout of Cuba, the youngest team in the tournament.

The 25-22, 25-14, 25-22 victory solidified Brazil's status as the top-ranked team in the sport, following its victories in 2002 and 2006. The South Americans also won the Olympic tournament in 2004, then took silver behind the United States in Beijing two years ago.

"We were united as a team and united like a family," said Brazil captain Gilberto Godoy Filho, who added that it was his last worlds. "Now we've got to focus on the World Cup next season and then the Olympics, which is the high point of this sport." Brazil becomes the second team to win three straight world

titles after Italy won in 1990, 1994 and 1998. The Soviet Union won a record six titles but never more than two in a row.

Earlier, Serbia beat host Italy 3-1 for third place, while Russia beat the United States in the fifth-place game Saturday.

Brazil standout Leandro Vissotto Neves closed out the final with a spike on the South Americans' fourth match point, then dropped to the floor — all 6 feet, 11 inches of him — and was mobbed by celebrating teammates.

Brazil's youngest player, 24-year-old Bruno Mossa Rezende, climbed the umpire's ladder and gestured to the crowd to share in his celebration.

Vissotto led Brazil with 19 points and alongside 6-foot-7 Dante Guimaraes Amaral, Brazil's wall proved too tough to breach. In addition, 29-year-old Murilo Endres used his skills to break apart the Cuban defense, earning him the tournament's top player award.

"We were able to control our pressure and exploit their mistakes and simply played better," Brazil coach Bernardo Rezende said. "I was happy with the way several of our guys dealt with physical problems. Vissotto had a great game."

Wilfredo Leon Venero, at 17 the youngest player in the tournament, showed his nerves with a series of early errors, including missed serves, and failed to carry Cuba like he had in earlier games — despite scoring a team-high 15 points.

Still, Cuba should be pleased with its performance. With an average age of 22.5, it was a sharp improvement from its 15th-place finish at the last worlds in 2006.

Also, Cuba beat Brazil 3-2 in the preliminary rounds.

"It was tough for us against such a physical squad, having so little experience in finals," said Cuba coach Orlando Samuels Blackwood, who also coached Cuba to the final in 1990.

"The Cuban league only lasts three weeks, so we've got to work on the physical aspect more and hopefully get our season to last longer. It's very tough to improve tactics in such a short period." □

with his ignition box that sent him to the garage for repairs. He finished 34th and dropped three spots in the standings to seventh.

Matt Kenseth had a decent run most of Sunday, then his Roush engine had a late problem that sent him to a 30th-place finish.

"That probably took all three of us out for a legitimate shot in one race, so that's really disappointing," Kenseth said. Jeff Gordon and Kevin Harvick were both flagged for speeding on pit road, drawing costly penalties that forced them to work double-time for their top-10 finishes. Kyle Busch's engine failed late in the race, causing him to declare his shot at the title over, and older brother, Kurt, was wrecked by David Ragan with seven laps remaining to wipe out his shot at a top-10 finish. When the carnage was over, the field had been widened to only three drivers within 85 points of Johnson. Tony Stewart, the winner, shaved 20 points off of his deficit but sits fifth in the standings, 107 points out.

So why is it that Johnson is seemingly able to hit cruise control during the Chase and coast to title after title while his challengers suffer through a myriad of mistakes, mechanical failures and bad breaks?

The answer is complex.

To start, the 10 Chase tracks suit Johnson and his team. He's won at nine of the 10 venues, and has a combined 30 career victories at Chase tracks.

His crew chief, Chad Knaus, has the luxury of having a team so good that making the Chase is not a question. It gives Knaus the opportunity to spend much of the "regular season" fine-tuning for the final 10-race push.

But most important, in racing, teams tend to make their own luck. Johnson is so often in a comfortable position that he and the No. 48 team can approach each race as business as usual. There's no risk-taking, no need to get aggressive on the track, and no point in experimenting with new setups or equipment. □



# Phillies moving on to NLCS after sweep of Reds

By JAY COHEN  
AP Sports Writer

CINCINNATI — Phillies manager Charlie Manuel pointed to the 1995 Atlanta Braves, whose rotation included Greg Maddux, Tom Glavine and John Smoltz. Reds skipper Dusty Baker went back to the '70s, when the Baltimore Orioles had Jim Palmer, Dave McNally, Mike Cuellar and Pat Dobson.

There will be plenty of time for comparisons now. Cole Hamels and the rest of Philadelphia's stellar starters are headed for the NL championship series. Hamels struck out nine in a five-hitter, Chase Utley homered and the Phillies beat the Reds 2-0 on Sunday night to finish off the franchise's first playoff sweep.

"This moment here is just another stepping stone to trying to win another World Series," Hamels said.

Philadelphia, attempting to become the first NL team in 66 years to win three straight pennants, will host San Francisco or Atlanta in the NLCS opener on Saturday. The Giants beat the Braves 3-2 Sunday to take a 2-1 lead in their best-of-five division series.

Roy Halladay got the Phillies off to a scintillating start with the second no-hitter in postseason history, and Hamels finished off the Reds with a masterful performance of his own.

With Roy Oswalt also rested and ready to go for the next round, look out.

"For everybody here the ultimate goal is to get to the World Series," Halladay said. "This is the first step. We're all looking to get to the end."

The Reds, making their first postseason appearance in 15 years, committed six errors in the last two games of the series after finishing second in the NL with a club-record .988 fielding percentage during the regular season.

The NL's top offense managed only 11 hits in three games — the fewest for a team in a postseason series, according to STATS LLC. The previous low was 13 by Texas against the New York Yankees in 1998.

"I mean, they really pitched," Baker said. "They're a very good team. We kept 'em in the ballpark, so to speak, kept the runs down. We just didn't push across enough runs."

Hamels got Joey Votto to ground into a double play after Brandon Phillips' leadoff single in the ninth, then struck out Scott Rolen to end the game. The lanky left-hander threw 119 pitches in his first postseason complete game, 82 for strikes.

After Rolen struck out for the eighth time in the series, the celebration was on. Well, sort of.

It all looked very routine — Manuel's team has practiced this a lot over the past couple of years, including a victory over Tampa Bay in the 2008 World Series.

"We don't want to get too carried away," Hamels said. "We're just going to move on and play the best baseball we can."

Utley, greeted with loud boos and chants of "Cheater! Cheater!" before each at-bat, connected against Johnny Cueto in the fifth, giving the Phillies a 2-0 lead. It was his 10th career postseason homer, moving him past teammate Jayson Werth and into first place on the club's career list.

Utley started Philadelphia's winning rally in Game 2 when he was hit by a pitch from hard-throwing reliever Aroldis Chapman in the seventh inning. The All-Star second baseman acknowledged after the game he wasn't sure if the ball hit him, and a record crowd of 44,599 at Great American Ball Park made it clear what it thought of the play.



The Philadelphia Phillies celebrate after beating the Cincinnati Reds 2-0 in Game 3 of baseball's National League Division Series Sunday, Oct. 10, 2010, in Cincinnati. Philadelphia swept the Reds 3-0 to advance to the National League Championship Series.

Associated Press

Umpires reviewed Utley's drive to right-center to see if a fan interfered with the ball, but the replays were conclusive and the call was quickly upheld.

No cheating here. Just another timely drive for the NL East champs.

"I knew I hit it OK," Utley said. "I hit a ball in the first inning I thought I hit better than that one, but lucky for us, the weather is still warm and it's a good hitters' ballpark."

The Reds never regained their footing after Halladay shut them down in the series opener. The surprise NL Central winners led 4-0 in Game 2 but quickly fell apart, committing four errors in a gut-wrenching 7-4 loss that put them on the brink of elimination.

Hamels took it from there. The 2008 World Series MVP, quite the luxury to have as a No. 3 starter in the postseason, increased his perfect mark against Cincinnati to 7-0 in eight career starts. He also improved to 6-3 in 11 postseason outings.

"I have that sort of positive energy every time I come here," said Hamels, who tossed five shutout innings

in his major league debut in Cincinnati in 2006.

Hamels, who went 5-1 with a 1.48 ERA in his final seven starts of the regular season, allowed only two runners to reach second and none of the Reds got to third.

"He was sharp and I mean, he was good the whole nine innings," Manuel said.

Hamels also got some help from his defense in the first when center fielder Shane Victorino sprinted into the gap in left-center to grab Phillips' liner with speedy Drew Stubbs on first.

Cincinnati's fielders were not so helpful to Cueto.

Reds shortstop Orlando

Cabrera, a late addition to the lineup, made an errant throw in the first that allowed Placido Polanco to score an unearned run, quieting the towel-waving crowd desperate for something to cheer about. Rolen mishandled Carlos Ruiz's grounder to third in the sixth but Homer Bailey got Hamels to fly out to end the inning.

Cincinnati chased Oswalt early in Game 2, but was still impressed with the Phillies' trio of starters.

"Those three alone can probably take them to the World Series and win it," Votto said. □

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This Feb. 18, 2009, file photo shows San Diego State baseball coach and Hall of Fame baseball player Tony Gwynn, posing at the team's field, in San Diego. Gwynn says he has cancer in a salivary gland. He told The San Diego Union-Tribune, in a story published Saturday, Oct. 9, 2010, the cancer was discovered last month and he faces seven to eight weeks of treatment \_ radiation five times a week and chemotherapy once a week.

*Associated Press*

SAN DIEGO (AP) — U.S. Baseball Hall of Fame outfielder Tony Gwynn says he has cancer in a salivary gland. He told The San Diego Union-Tribune the cancer was discovered last month and he

# Report: MLB Hall of Famer Tony Gwynn has cancer

faces seven to eight weeks of treatment — radiation five times a week and chemotherapy once a week.

“The doctors have told me they feel they caught the cancer early and there was not much of it there,” he said in a story published on Saturday.

The parotid cancer was diagnosed after the former San Diego Padres star had a third round of surgery since 1997 to remove a tumor on the parotid gland. The previous procedures found no malignancies.

Gwynn is San Diego State University's baseball coach, and the school confirmed Gwynn's condition to The Associated Press. Gwynn plans to return to his alma mater, which he has coached since 2003.

“They say this is a slow moving but aggressive form of cancer,” Gwynn said. “I'm going to be aggressive and not slow moving in treating this.” Gwynn said he was concerned the cancer could be linked to his career-long practice of

using chewing tobacco. “I haven't discussed that with the doctors yet, but I'm thinking it's related to dipping,” said Gwynn, who resumed the practice of using chewing tobacco after the first two surgeries.

Dr. Kevin Brumund, a neck and throat specialist at the UCSD Moores Cancer Center, told the newspaper there have been no studies linking parotid cancer and chewing tobacco, which is banned in minor league baseball. □

# Red Wings sign coach Babcock to 4-year extension

LARRY LAGE  
AP Sports Writer

DETROIT (AP) — The Detroit Red Wings signed coach Mike Babcock to a four-year extension Monday.

“His stock as a head coach is probably as high as anybody's and he could've gone on the open market next summer,” Red Wings general manager Ken Holland told The Associated Press. “We started talking about it in June and July, went our separate ways, and we knew this would get done. He loves it in Detroit.” The Red Wings are pretty fond of him, too.

Babcock helped the Red Wings hoist the Stanley Cup

in 2008 and come within one win of repeating the next season against the Pittsburgh Penguins. Babcock also coached the host team to the gold medal at the Vancouver Olympics earlier this year.

He is leading the Red Wings for a sixth season after starting his NHL coaching career with the Anaheim Ducks. Babcock, Holland and assistant Jim Nill are under contract with the franchise through the 2014-15 season.

“Mike's family has made roots here with their kids in school and it has become their home like it has for my family and the Nills,” Holland said. “He knows we have committed



Detroit Red wings head coach Mike Babcock signals during the third period of an NHL hockey game against the Pittsburgh Penguins in Detroit, Sunday, Oct. 3, 2010.

*Associated Press*

ownership and he believes in our players, scouts, and front office so this made sense for him and for us.” □

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# Katherine Hull wins Navistar LPGA Classic

PRATTVILLE, Alabama (AP) — Australia's Katherine Hull rallied to win the Navistar LPGA Classic on Sunday for her second LPGA Tour victory, pulling ahead with a birdie on the par-5 17th and finishing with a par for a 5-under 67 for a one-stroke victory over Brittany Lincicome. Hull, who also won the 2008 Canadian Women's Open, finished at 19-under 269 on the links-style Senator layout at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail's Capitol Hill complex. After opening with a 68, she had three straight bogey-free 67s. "It's actually really validating," said Hull, who began the round three strokes behind Cristie Kerr. "I feel like my game's the best its ever been, and I know it's going to get better, too. I think I've always

struggled to try to put four good rounds together and I was able to do that this week."

On the par-4 18th, Hull missed the fairway to the left and was faced with a challenging lie. She hit her approach on the green, 50 feet from the hole. Her birdie attempt stopped 5 feet short and she saved par for the victory and \$195,000 first-place check.

"I would have liked a tap-in, for sure," Hull said. "Putting is the best part of my game, so (I was) glad to see it drop."

Lincicome closed with a 65.

"You know, 65 on the final day, that's pretty cool," Lincicome said.

Lincicome was the first to congratulate Hull, running onto the green and spraying her with a victory beer.

"It's a little overwhelming," Hull said. "It probably won't hit me until later. You just get so focused on executing and just finishing that you don't think about anything else."

Kerr shot a 72 to tie for third at 17 under with Na Yeon Choi (69). Kerr played the first 50 holes in 20 under, then was 3 over on the final 22.

"Today, things just didn't go my way," Kerr said. "If I had played half as well as I had played the first three days, it would have been no contest."

Playing in the final group with Hull, Kerr pushed her approach shot to the right of the green on 18 and two-putted for a bogey. Had she won the tournament, she would have earned enough points to take over first place in the Rolex Player



Katherine Hull, right, of Australia, celebrates with her caddy Vern Tess after winning the Navistar LPGA Classic golf tournament in Prattville, Ala., Sunday, Oct. 10, 2010.

Associated Press

of the Year standings. She remained third behind Yani Tseng and Ai Miyazato. Lindsey Wright shot a course-record 63 to share fifth at 16 under with Amy Yang (66) and Se Ri Pak (69). □



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# Novak Djokovic, Caroline Wozniacki win China Open titles

CHRISTOPHER BODEEN

Associated Press Writer

BEIJING (AP) — Top-seeded Novak Djokovic defeated David Ferrer of Spain 6-2, 6-4 on Monday to defend his China Open title and claim his second championship of the year ahead of this week's Shanghai Masters.

In the women's final, top-ranked Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark beat No. 3 Vera Zvonareva 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

Djokovic, the world No. 2, cruised through the first set of the match that had been postponed because of rain Sunday, but fell behind 4-2 in the second as his pace flagged slightly.

At 4-3, the eighth-ranked Ferrer battled to hold serve and defend his lead, but Djokovic was relentless, breaking him to take the set and, two games later, the match.

"I started off really well but then I lost the momentum I kind of lost the rhythm, got him back into the match with some unforced errors," said Djokovic, who converted four of six break points while being broken only once to



Denmark's Caroline Wozniacki poses for photos with her trophy after winning the women singles final match against Russia's Vera Zvonareva in the China Open tennis tournament at the National Tennis Center in Beijing, China, Monday, Oct. 11, 2010. Wozniacki won 6-3, 3-6, 6-3; and Novak Djokovic of Serbia, right, poses for photos with his trophy after winning his men's singles final match against David Ferrer of Spain in the China Open tennis tournament at the National Tennis Center in Beijing Monday, Oct. 11, 2010. Djokovic won 6-2, 6-4.



wrap up the match in 1 hour, 24 minutes.

"It wasn't a really nice looking match from both sides. We

made a lot of unforced errors, especially him. He made my life a little bit easier at the end of the second set, where, with

his unforced errors, I got back into the set," the Serb said.

Djokovic, who was runner-up at last month's U.S. Open, said he was pleased with his improved serve, which he says is largely responsible for the run of success he's experienced since Wimbledon.

The 23-year-old had somewhat more difficulty accounting for his success in Beijing, where he won the Olympic bronze medal in 2008 in addition to his back-to-back China Open titles. The playing surface — and the local cuisine — seem to suit his style of play, Djokovic said.

"There's something special about this place."

The win improves Djokovic's record against Ferrer to five wins and four losses.

Djokovic next faces either Ivan Ljubicic of Croatia or Chinese qualifier Zhang Ze on Wednesday at the ATP Masters in Shanghai.

"This is definitely a confidence boost for me. The last two, three months ... feeling much more comfortable and confident on the court, playing the aggressive game and service is working for me which is a great thing to

have," he said. "Let's see if I can keep it up. Energy-wise I'm fresh."

Ferrer has less time to rest, meeting France's Michael Llodra in Shanghai on Tuesday. He also pointed to the eighth game of the second set as having decided Monday's match.

"I had my chance there, but didn't do it," said the 28-year-old, who entered the final after beating Ljubicic in three sets in Saturday's semifinals. "Maybe when I lost this game, I lost a little bit my concentration and couldn't come back and play regular again."

Wozniacki converted three of her four breakpoints, one more than her Russian opponent.

Zvonareva led 3-1 in the first set before losing five straight games. Employing her formidable two-handed backhand to devastating effect, Wozniacki broke Zvonareva in the second game of the third set then held serve to take a 3-0 lead.

"I thought in general I played a really, really good match," Wozniacki said. "I just stayed focused, I kept running, I tried to keep the pressure on her, tried to keep her moving and I thought we played a really, really good match."

The China Open is Wozniacki's sixth title this season, the result, the 20-year-old said, of greater attention to a number of small aspects of her game.

"I'm really happy and pleased by how I'm playing at the moment," she said.

Following her rise to the top spot, Wozniacki says a Grand Slam title is her next goal.

"I feel like I'm at a very high level and can beat anyone," Wozniacki said. "If it doesn't happen next year, I'm still young and have a lot of years ahead of me."

Wozniacki said she plans to rest a few days before warming up for the season-ending WTA Championships in Doha, Qatar later this month.

"I feel like I'm not burned out," she said. "I feel I've done really well in my latest tournaments and I'm looking forward to Doha." □



Germany's Martin Kaymer poses with the trophy after his victory during the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship at St Andrews Golf Course, Scotland, Sunday Oct. 10, 2010.

Associated Press

GRAHAM OTWAY

Associated Press Writer

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland (AP) — Martin Kaymer said on Sunday he has not decided whether to take out membership to the PGA Tour next year.

## Kaymer undecided on PGA Tour membership

The 25-year-old German was speaking after recording a third straight tournament victory at the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship, adding to his wins at the PGA Championship and the KLM Dutch Open.

Those wins have made Kaymer the hot favorite to become the new European number one by winning the Race to Dubai money list next month.

He now has a €995,580 (\$1.3 million) lead in the money table with a maximum of seven events still to be played.

However, Kaymer is still considering whether to launch his first challenge for the U.S. tour's FedEx Cup title next year.

"I get that question a lot," Kaymer said. "But I cannot answer it at the moment. For me the main goal now is to win the Race to Dubai this year and I know I have still a few weeks in which to decide if I am going to join the PGA Tour."

"I cannot answer the question, because I don't know and at the moment it's not something that I care about."

Lee Westwood, who is poised to take Tiger Woods' place at the top of the world rankings, announced last week he will not take out PGA Tour membership in 2011, but U.S. Open champion Graeme McDowell has said he will take up his card. □





# First patient treated in Geron stem cell trial

By Maggie Fox,

Health and Science Editor

WASHINGTON (Reuters)

— U.S. doctors have begun treating the first patient to receive human embryonic stem cells, but details of the landmark clinical trial are being kept confidential, Geron Corp said on Monday.

Geron has the first U.S. Food and Drug Administration license to use the controversial cells to treat people, in this case patients with new spinal cord injuries. It is the first publicly known use of human embryonic stem cells in people. “The patient was enrolled at Shepherd Center, a 132-bed spinal cord and brain injury rehabilitation hospital and clinical research center in Atlanta, Georgia,” Geron said in a statement.

“Shepherd Center is one of seven potential sites in the United States that may enroll patients in the clinical trial.” Northwestern University in Chicago is also ready to enroll

patients.

Geron’s stem cells come from human embryos left over from fertility treatments. They have been manipulated so that they have become precursors to certain types of nerve cells.

The hope is that they will travel to the site of a recent spinal cord injury and release compounds that will help the damaged nerves in the cord regenerate.

The Phase I trial will not be aiming to cure patients but to establish that the cells are safe to use. Under the guidelines of the trial, the patients must have very recent injuries.

Geron said the Shepherd Center would keep details of the patient confidential.

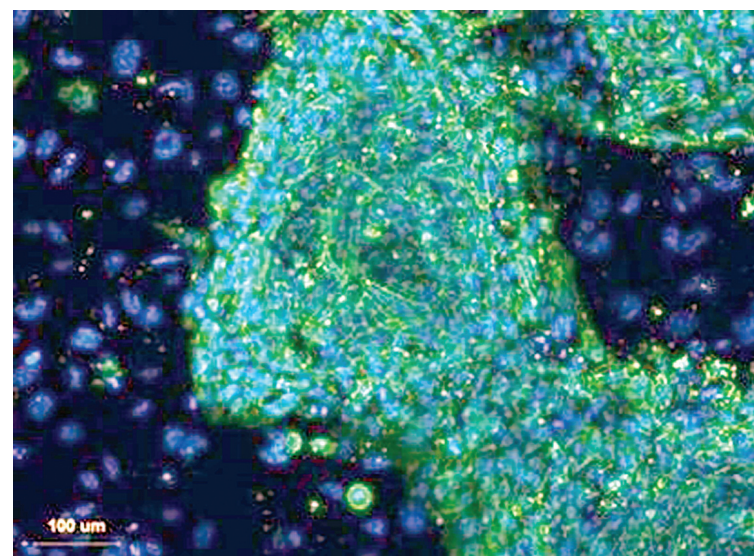
“When we started working with human embryonic stem cells in 1999, many predicted that it would be a number of decades before a cell therapy would be approved for human clinical trials,” Geron President and CEO Dr. Thomas Okarma said in a statement.

Geron is not subject to limitations on federal funding for human embryonic stem cell research, as it has done all its work with its own funding. The government is embroiled in a legal battle over the cells. Just weeks after he took office in 2009, President Barack Obama issued an executive order that eased limitations on federal funding of human embryonic stem cell research.

Opponents of their use say it is wrong to use a human embryo to make the cells, and two researchers have sued the National Institutes of Health. A federal appeals court has allowed continued federal funding of the work until the case is heard.

Stem cells are the master cells of the body, giving rise to blood cells and tissue. Those taken from days-old embryos are the most powerful of all, giving rise to every tissue and cell type.

While scientists have hoped that stem cells could transform



A fluorescent microscope image shows human embryonic stem cells in this photo taken at Stanford University and released by the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine, March 9, 2009.

medicine, providing cures for diseases such as Parkinson’s and juvenile diabetes, the reality has been that they are difficult to work with and do not easily grow into new tissues.

Besides Geron, only one other company -- Massachusetts-based Advanced Cell Technology -- has a human embryonic stem cell treatment

close to FDA approval.

ACT’s product is a human embryonic stem cell trained to become a retinal cell. The company has asked the FDA for permission to use it in patients with Stargardt’s macular dystrophy, a genetic eye disease that progresses to blindness. Geron shares were up 4.1 percent to \$5.55 in premarket trade. □



School children play arcade games during the opening of the “Game On” exhibition at The Science Museum in London, in 2006. Hiding the TV remote and games console controller is a good thing to do to children if it’s the only way to limit the time they spend in front of a screen, according to a new study.

WASHINGTON — Hiding the TV remote and games console controller is a good thing to do to kids if it’s the only way to limit the time they spend in front of a screen, according to a study published Monday.

The study, conducted by researchers from the University of Bristol, found that youngsters who spend hours each day in front of the

TV or games console have more psychological difficulties like problems relating to peers, emotional issues, hyperactivity or conduct challenges, than those who don’t.

And contrary to what earlier studies have indicated, the negative impact of screen time was not remedied by increasing a child’s physical activity levels, says the study,

## Too much TV psychologically harms children: study

published in the US journal Pediatrics.

The researchers got 1,013 children between the ages of 10 and 11 to self-report average daily hours spent watching television or playing -- not doing homework -- on a computer. Responses ranged from zero to around five hours per day.

The children also completed a 25-point questionnaire to assess their psychological state, and the time they spent in moderate to vigorous activity was measured using a device called an accelerometer, which was worn around the waist for seven days.

The researchers found that children who spent two hours

or more a day watching television or playing on a computer were more likely to get high scores on the questionnaire, indicating they had more psychological difficulties than kids who did not spend a lot of time in front of a screen.

Even children who were physically active but spent more than two hours a day in front of a screen were at increased risk of psychological difficulties, indicating that screen time might be the chief culprit. Earlier studies have found that while more time spent in front of a screen led to lower well-being, physical activity improved one’s state of mind. That led researchers

to believe that upping physical activity levels could counteract the negative impact of watching TV or playing on the computer.

And many parents and children think that spending a lot of time on the computer or in front of the television is OK if it’s part of a “balanced lifestyle,” the study in Pediatrics says.

“Excessive use of electronic media is not a concern if children are physically active,” the study says.

But its findings indicate that might not be the case, and the researchers advise parents to limit their children’s computer use and TV viewing time to ensure their “optimal well-being.” □



# Woman acquitted in Winfrey SAfrica school scandal

By JENNY GROSS,

Associated Press Writer

JOHANNESBURG — A woman accused of abusing teenagers at Oprah Winfrey's school for girls in South Africa was acquitted of the charges Monday, and Winfrey said she was "profoundly disappointed" by the trial's outcome.

Prosecutors had accused former school matron Tiny Virginia Makopo of trying to kiss and fondle girls at the school soon after it opened in 2007 outside Johannesburg. Makopo also had been accused of assaulting one of the teens as well as a fellow supervisor. Mthunzi Mhaga, a spokesman for South Africa's National Prosecuting Authority, said Monday that Makopo had been acquitted of the charges. "The magistrate indicated that the state did not prove itself case beyond reasonable doubt on all the charges. We won't

be appealing the judgment," Mhaga said.

Winfrey had called the allegations crushing given her own stated history of childhood sexual abuse and promised an overhaul of the school.

"I will forever be proud of the nine girls who testified with the courage and conviction to be heard," Winfrey said in a statement Monday.

The lavish \$40 million Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls, which opened in January 2007, aims to give girls from deprived backgrounds a quality education in a country where schools are struggling to overcome the legacy of apartheid.

The school is spread across a 22-acre campus with neat lawns and garden paths decorated with mosaics. It has computer and science labs, a library and a wellness center. The school is home to about

300 girls from across the country.

Winfrey said Monday that the school's staff "is committed to providing a nurturing educational environment so that all of our girls may continue to flourish. And they are indeed thriving."

In March, Winfrey had settled a defamation lawsuit filed in Philadelphia by the school's former headmistress, Nomvuyo Mzamane, who claimed Winfrey defamed her in remarks made in the wake of the 2007 sex-abuse scandal at the school.

Mzamane claimed that she was never told of any sexual abuse.

However, Winfrey's lawyers said in a March pretrial memo that Mzamane failed to discipline Makopo despite her history of run-ins with students and fellow staff.

Mzamane said she had trouble finding a job after



**File - U.S. talk show host Oprah Winfrey, center, with learners, during an opening ceremony of her Leadership Academy for Girls School at Henley-on-Klip, South Africa, in this Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2007 file photo. A woman accused of abusing teenagers at Oprah Winfrey's school for girls in South Africa was acquitted of the charges Monday, and Winfrey said she was 'profoundly disappointed' by the trial's outcome. Prosecutors had accused Tiny Virginia Makopo of trying to kiss and fondle girls at the school soon after it opened in 2007 outside Johannesburg. Mthunzi Mhaga, a spokesman for South Africa's National Prosecuting Authority, said Monday Oct. 11, 2010 that Makopo had been acquitted of the charges.**

(AP Photo / Denis Farrell)

Winfrey stated she had "lost confidence" in her.

Lawyers for both sides in

March said Winfrey and Mzamane met to resolve their differences out of court. □



**FILE - In this Oct. 4, 2010 file photo, British actor Rhys Ifans, who plays Mr. Nice, arrives at a central London cinema for the UK premiere of 'Mr. Nice.'**

(AP Photo/Joel Ryan, file)

## Rhys Ifans cast as villain in new 'Spider-Man'

LOS ANGELES — Rhys Ifans is playing the bad guy in the next "Spider-Man." But the filmmakers aren't saying yet which character he'll be.

Sony Pictures announced Monday that Ifans, widely known as a comic actor in such films as Julia Roberts and Hugh Grant's "Notting Hill," will co-star as the villain in the superhero adventure due out July 3, 2012.

The studio's announcement notes that the "filmmakers prefer to not reveal which character Ifans will be playing."

## Family: Soprano Joan Sutherland has died, age 83

By FRANK JORDANS,

Associated Press Writer

GENEVA — Soprano Joan Sutherland, whose purity of tone and brilliant vocal display made her one of the most celebrated opera singers of all time, has died at 83 after a four-decade career that won her praise as the successor to legend Maria Callas.

Her family said she died Sunday at her home near Geneva after a long illness.

Called "La Stupenda" by her Italian fans, Sutherland was acclaimed from her native Australia to North America and Europe for her wide range of roles.

But she was particularly praised for her singing of operas by Handel and 19th-century Italian composers.

Tenor Luciano Pavarotti, who joined with Marilyn Horne in Sutherland's farewell gala recital at Covent Garden on Dec. 31, 1990, called her "the greatest coloratura soprano of all time."

The term, derived from "color," refers to a soprano with a high range and the vocal agility to sing brilliant trills and rapid passages.

Sutherland's skills made her pre-eminent in the revival of



**FILE- Soprano singer Joan Sutherland, at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, U.S.A. in this file photo dated Sunday, Dec. 5, 2004. Sutherland, whose purity of tone and brilliant vocal display over a four decade career made her one of the most celebrated opera singers of all time, has died aged 83 Sunday Oct. 10, 2010, at her home near Geneva, Switzerland, after a long illness.**

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite, file)

Italian "bel canto" operas, and she was seen by many as having taken on the mantle of Callas. Sutherland started singing as a small child, crouching

under the piano and copying her mother, Muriel Alston Sutherland, "a talented singer with a glorious mezzo-soprano voice," according to Sutherland's biographer Norma Major, wife of former British Prime Minister John Major.

"I was able from the age of 3 to imitate her scales and exercises," she wrote in her autobiography. "As she was a mezzo-soprano, I worked very much in the middle area of my voice, learning the scales and arpeggios and even the dreaded trill without thinking about it. The birds could trill, so why not I?"

"I even picked up her songs and arias and sang them by ear, later singing duets with her — Manrico to her Azucena. I always had a voice."

When she began performing in Australia, Sutherland thought she was a mezzo-soprano like her mother, and it took the insight of subsequent coaches to make her realize that she should develop her higher range.

The family statement said Sutherland is survived by her husband, conductor Richard Bonyng, their son, Adam, daughter-in-law Helen, and two grandchildren. □



## George Michael released from jail after 4 weeks

LONDON — George Michael has regained his freedom.

The wayward singer was released from jail Monday after serving almost four weeks for driving under the influence of drugs.

Michael thanked those who had supported him while he was jailed and said outside his north London home: "I just want to start again."

The former Wham! singer received an eight-week sentence on Sept. 14 for crashing his car into a London photo shop in July while high on prescription drugs and marijuana.

The judge ordered Michael to serve four weeks of the sentence in prison and the rest on parole. The musician, whose hits include "Faith" and "Freedom," also received a 1,250 pound (about \$2,000) fine and lost his driver's license for five years. □





# Stocks mixed to start busy week of earnings

By STEPHEN BERNARD,  
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Stocks wavered Monday as investors struggled to extend a rally that pushed the Dow Jones industrial average above 11,000 last week for the first time since early May.

The Dow rose 11 points in early afternoon trading and has been stuck in a 35-point range throughout the morning. Trading was muted as there are no major economic or earnings reports out Monday that could have a major impact on trading.

Investors have been betting that the Federal Reserve will act in the coming weeks to stimulate the economy and drive interest rates lower. Hopes have been building that the Fed could announce an expansion of its bond-buying program as soon as its next meeting Nov. 2-3. The bond market was closed Monday for the Columbus Day holiday.

Tom Samuels, managing partner at Palantir Capital Management, said the stock market has even been reacting to disappointing reports in recent days because that adds to the expectations the Fed will act soon.

“The market is trying to convince itself that good news is good news and bad news is good news,” Samuels said. The Dow has risen five of the past six weeks and is now less than 2 percent from its highest level of the year, which it touched in late April.

Interest rates have also been plummeting in anticipation of the Fed’s move, and those lower rates make stocks more attractive.

“The 10-year rate is going to make stocks look cheaper and cheaper compared to bonds,” said Bob Phillips, managing partner at Spectrum Management Group. The yield on the 10-year Treasury

note is often used to set interest rates on loans. It was at 2.39 percent Friday, near its lowest level since January 2009.

Traders will get key economic reports at the end of the week, including data on inflation, retail sales and consumer sentiment, that could influence trading. The Fed has said part of the reason it might buy bonds is to get inflation more in line with historical levels.

In corporate news, shares of Gymboree Corp. jumped 22.6 percent after Bain Capital agreed to buy the children’s clothing retailer for \$1.8 billion.

Earnings season also picks up this week with industry

bellwethers Intel Corp., JPMorgan Chase & Co. and General Electric Co. releasing quarterly results.

Channing Smith, portfolio manager at Capital Advisors Growth Fund, said that earnings could take a backseat to the Fed.

“The market is so focused on the Fed stepping in,” Smith said. “There will be some interest on revenue growth. (Corporate outlooks) will be important. But the Fed trumps that.” The Dow rose 10.70, or 0.1 percent, to 11,017.26 in early afternoon trading.

The Standard & Poor’s 500 index rose 1.88, or 0.2 percent, to 1,167.03, while the Nasdaq

composite index rose 8.65, or 0.4 percent, to 2,410.56.

About four stocks rose for every three that fell on the New York Stock Exchange where volume came to 436.6 million shares.

The dollar rose Monday against the euro and Japan’s yen. It had been falling consistently in recent weeks against those two currencies. Lower interest rates on American bonds would make it less attractive for foreign investors to hold the dollar. A weekend meeting of the International Monetary Fund and Group of 20 finance ministers did not yield any new agreements over the recent currency moves. □



**FILE - In this March 8, 2010 file photo, a sign for Wall Street is shown near the New York Stock Exchange.**

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan, file)

## Foreclosure freeze could undermine housing market



**In this Sept. 14, 2010 photo, a house in Homestead, Fla. sits empty, for sale as a foreclosure home in a neighborhood where half of the houses were empty and up for foreclosure. A flurry of developments the past few weeks have sketched an alarming scenario: that major U.S. banks rammed through foreclosure after foreclosure without giving many borrowers a fair shot at keeping their homes.**

(AP Photo/J Pat Carter)

By MICHELLE CONLIN,  
AP Real Estate Writer

NEW YORK — Karl Case, the co-creator of a widely watched housing market index, was upbeat three weeks ago. Mulling the economy while at a meeting at a resort near the Berkshires, Case thought the makings of a recovery were finally falling into place.

“I’m a 60-40 optimist,” he said at the time.

Today, Case’s mood is far more subdued. In scarcely two weeks, he and other housing analysts have watched as the once-staid world of back-office bank procedures has spawned a scandal that threatens to further unhinge the housing market.

Allegations of possible mortgage fraud against financial giants GMAC, JPMorgan Chase and Bank of America read like a corporate thriller: forged documents, faked Social Security numbers, phantom titles, disappearing paper trails, “robo-signers” and mortgages sliced and diced so many times that nobody really knows who owns them.

On Friday, PNC and mortgage servicer Litton Loan Servicing joined those three financial institutions in suspending some foreclosures while they review how documents were handled. Bank of America, which had already announced a halt for 23 states, expanded the suspension to cover the whole nation. If other banks follow suit, it raises the specter of a national foreclosure moratorium.

In all, the banks will have to review the paperwork for hundreds of thousands of mortgages. On top of that, class action lawyers and state attorneys general have filed lawsuits and called for foreclosure moratoriums.

In the near term, the freezes could actually benefit both homeowners and the housing market. Homeowners would have time to live rent-free and chip away at their debt. Prices might stabilize because so many homes are penned up.

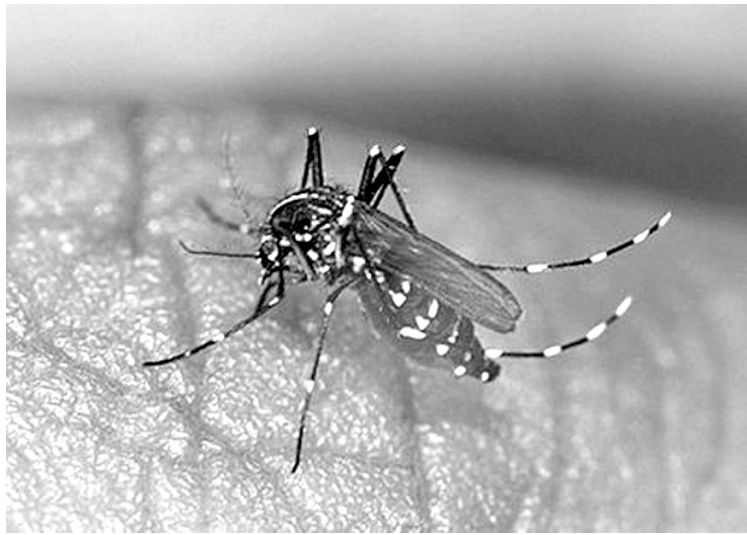
But the long-term implications are grave. Only a month ago, housing watcher Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody’s Analytics, predicted that a housing recovery would be under way by the third quarter of next year. Now he believes the foreclosure scandal could prolong the housing depression for at least another few years.

The alleged document fraud could open up the entire chain of foreclosure proceedings to legal challenge. Some foreclosures could be overturned, others deemed outright fraudulent.

Before a housing recovery can occur, all those foreclosed properties have to be re-scrutinized by the banks and then sold. With any foreclosure-related deal open to legal challenge, that inventory could be taken off the market while the legal challenges make their way through the courts. □



# Malaysia to use lab mosquitoes to fight dengue



Dengue fever, a mosquito-borne disease with no known treatment, is spreading in Asia, with cases in India at a 20-year high as the country hosts the Commonwealth Games.



A picture shows the Dragon Blood tree on the untouched Yemeni Island of Socotra, a site of global importance for biodiversity conservation, located in the northwestern Indian Ocean, some 350km south of the Arabian Peninsula in 2008

## Japan warns on pace of biodiversity loss

TOKYO – Japan warned Monday that the diversity of life on Earth was being lost at the fastest rate ever seen, at the opening of a UN conference on the safe use of modern biotechnology. The five-day meeting in the central Japanese city of Nagoya comes ahead of a major international conference on biodiversity next week and was to consider how genetically modified organisms are threatening plant and animal species. The talks, which include more than 190 countries and NGOs, are expected to agree that a country can seek compensation for damage to biodiversity caused by imports of genetically-modified organisms from other countries or companies.

“The loss of biodiversity is developing in the fastest pace ever,” Japanese Farm Minister Michihiko Kano said at the opening of the talks.

“It is our responsibility to carry over a rich biodiversity to the next generation,” he said.

The meeting comes ahead of a conference of the 193-nation Convention on Biological Diversity from October 18 in Nagoya due to discuss how to pay for the “equitable sharing” of the benefits from natural resources.

The biodiversity talks will also discuss a fresh target of preserving animal and plant species that are disappearing mostly as a result of human activity.

Species under threat include 21 percent of all known mammals, 30 percent of known amphibians and 12 percent of known birds, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature. □

PUTRAJAYA, Malaysia – Malaysia could be the first country in Asia to use genetically modified mosquitoes to battle a rise in dengue fever, government authorities said Monday.

The program calls for genetically engineered male mosquitoes to be released into the wild that would mate with females and produce offspring that live shorter lives, thus curbing the population.

Malaysian scientists say laboratory test trials have made them optimistic.

“It is a pilot project, and hopefully it will work,” Prime Minister Najib Razak told reporters on the sidelines of a World Health Organization conference in Malaysia.

Dengue fever, spread by the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, is

common in Asia and Latin America. Symptoms include high fever, joint pains and nausea, but in severe cases, it can lead to internal bleeding, liver enlargement, circulatory shutdown and death. There is no known cure or vaccine.

Efforts to urge Malaysians to keep neighborhoods clean and destroy stagnant sources of water — which are mosquito breeding grounds — have failed, and “innovative ways” are needed to combat dengue, Najib said. In Malaysia, the number of dengue-linked deaths totaled 117 between January and early October — a 65 percent surge from last year, according to Health Ministry statistics. Dengue infections overall increased 17 percent from last year to more than 37,000 cases.

Malaysian authorities plan to release between 2,000 and 3,000 genetically modified mosquitoes in two areas, said Lim Chua Leng, a Health Ministry official. The plan, which cannot be undertaken without Cabinet approval, would be the first such release of genetically modified mosquitoes in Asia to combat dengue. WHO Western Pacific regional director Shin Young-soo on Sunday said he welcomed Malaysia’s efforts to step up the fight against dengue, but also reportedly cautioned that care must be taken in introducing a new species to the environment, The Star newspaper reported. Some Malaysian environmentalists say releasing such mosquitoes could have unintended consequences. □

## Forget Big Asteroids: It's the Smaller Rocks That Sneak In and Blow Up

Leonard David

Put aside the vision of Bruce Willis wrestling with huge space rocks threatening to doom Earth “Armageddon”-style. It turns out that people should be more worried about smaller space rocks that explode in our atmosphere.

While smaller than Earth-busting asteroids, these “airbursters” — like the space rock that exploded in 1908 high over Tunguska, Siberia — are more immediate threats, scientists say. They can cause localized destruction and may intrude in our airspace with little warning time.

When an airbursting asteroid, called a bolide, exploded over an island region of Indonesia late last year, it rocked the residents’ world with an estimated energy release of about 50 kilotons, equal to some 110,000 pounds of TNT. Such objects are expected to impact the Earth on average every two to 12 years.

Physics of airbursts

The risks of exploding asteroids and the need to keep watch for hazardous near-Earth objects took center stage at September’s Space 2010 conference in California, sponsored by the American Institute of

Aeronautics and Astronautics.

“We used to think that the only real threat was from impacts that hit the ground ... and that the atmosphere would protect us from the small ones,” said physicist Mark Boslough of Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, N.M. “We never really thought about the physics of airbursts. ... There hasn’t been that much research.”

Given his modeling of airbursts, Boslough pointed out that smaller NEOs detonating in the atmosphere release intense heat and create very high blasts of wind that can reach the ground.

“So yes, you do have to sweat the small stuff,” Boslough told SPACE.com.

Also, a space rock big enough to make it deeper into the Earth’s atmosphere before it explodes can result in a sizzling jet of gases that incinerates anything volatile on the ground. Vegetation would be vaporized. Rocks would melt to form glass — in short, a hellish explosion.

A similar situation is thought to have occurred in the Libyan desert some 30 million years ago, Boslough said. The region was strewn with surface material fused into glass.

Large deposits of shattered glass were discovered where there should be none.

“Just statistically, it’s almost certain that the next destructive impact will be an airburst,” Boslough said.

More and more of the big NEOs are being found, he said, so the statistical probability of Earth getting slam-dunked by a large object is going down.

“But there are many, many more small ones,” Boslough said, advocating a priority on spotting less hefty, imminent impactors. “If big dollars are to be spent, I think they should be spent on more telescopes.” If a small NEO were discovered, say, two weeks in advance, “we have no choice but to take the hit,” Boslough said.

In terms of planetary defense and mitigation efforts, Boslough advised focusing more attention on small airbursting objects, with “mitigation being a form of civil defense.”

Tunguska fallout

The classic asteroid event occurred 102 years ago in Tunguska, Boslough said. It involved an object that broke up in a cascading way, leading to a rapidly expanding fireball and subsequent blast wave. □



# Want to improve US national security? Cut the defense budget

By Lawrence Korb

Laura Conley

Washington—Speaking last week at a Christian Science Monitor breakfast with journalists, Admiral Michael Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, remarked that he hoped to avoid “massive cuts” in defense, which “would be dangerous now, given the national security requirements that we have.” Yet cutting the baseline defense budget, which is now even higher than it was at the height of the Reagan buildup, may ironically be one of the best tools we have to meet our national security needs. Adm. Mullen’s remark fails to acknowledge a central truth about national security: No country can buy perfect security no matter how much it spends, and any attempt to do so will eventually reach the point of severely diminishing returns.

The United States is now in its thirteenth straight year of uninterrupted growth in the defense budget, an unprecedented rise in spending that Secretary of Defense Robert Gates has rightly termed a “gusher.” As the United States winds down its mission in Iraq and begins to plan for the first withdrawal of American forces from Afghanistan next summer, it is long past time to reexamine whether the level and distribution of US defense spending actually enhances our national security capabilities.

Misuse of taxpayer dollars This type of inquiry will quickly reveal a fundamental disconnect between our defense spending and our strategic goals, particularly in the area of major defense acquisition projects. For too long the Defense Department and Congress have continued to direct scarce taxpayer dollars to massively expensive, over-budget, behind-schedule weapons programs that are inadequate to meet the current and future needs of our armed forces. A prime (but not the only) example of such a program is the Marine Corps’ Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle (EFV) – a 13.2 billion dollar project.

Proponents of the EFV, an amphibious assault vehicle, argue that it offers better armor and firepower than the Corps’ current model. Military writer Ed Hooper claims it will help the Marine Corps get back to its original combat role – “an amphibious force in readiness.”

Yet the EFV has no clear strategic rationale: The United States has not undertaken a contested amphibious landing since the Korean War’s Inchon invasion in 1950. Despite this fact, Hooper and others, including

Marine Corps Commandant General James Conway, argue that we cannot afford to lose the capabilities the EFV might provide.

Over-budget projects In fact, this program can and should be canceled. While the EFV can be launched significantly farther from shore than the Corps’ current vehicles, anti-ship missiles now have longer ranges as well, meaning our Marines and the ships that launch them would still be in dangerous waters in the newer EFV.

Moreover, the program has repeatedly failed to meet reasonable cost and performance standards. The Corps is currently testing new prototypes for the EFV because earlier models experienced repeated critical failures, and failed a 2006 operational assessment. The program is now at least eight years behind schedule, and the per-vehicle cost is predicted to be 168 percent higher than the original estimate.

Similar issues could be raised about the new \$13.6 billion a piece aircraft carriers, especially since Mullen’s boss, Secretary Gates, has questioned why the US Navy needs 11 large, nuclear-powered carriers. According to Gates, “In terms of size and striking power, no other country has even one comparable ship.”

Cutting spending helps tackle debt Programs like the EFV result from the understandable desire to spend more money to protect against every possible contingency. But the funding for this \$13.2 billion program could be better spent elsewhere. Instead of inveighing against budget cuts, Mullen should be the first to say that trimming unnecessary defense spending is a reasonable long-term investment in our national security capabilities. Cutting defense spending will deal with what he has called the most significant threat to our national security: the debt. As presidents from Eisenhower to Obama have recognized, our ability to protect American national security interests is dependent on the strength of our economy at home. Continuing to fund strategically unnecessary defense acquisition projects, beyond the point of diminishing returns, will not only result in a force too overburdened and sclerotic to adapt to emerging threats, but will also result in an economy too weak to support a robust force. That would be the real dangerous path to follow.

Lawrence Korb, a former assistant secretary of defense in the Reagan administration, is a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress. Laura Conley is a research assistant at the Center. □

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# Microsoft bets big on new phone software



The Windows Phone 7 powered Samsung Focus at the launch of new smart phones with AT&T Inc. ahead of the holiday shopping season, that will run on Microsoft's new mobile software, in New York, Monday, Oct. 11, 2010.

By PETER SVENSSON,  
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK — Microsoft Corp. knows the cell phone world is where it's happening, and it's determined to be a part of it.

After years of declining sales of phones based on Microsoft's Windows Mobile software, the

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

company is starting with a fresh slate — a completely new operating system for phones.

The new handsets will go up against Apple Inc.'s highly popular iPhone and the expanding number of phones running on Google Inc.'s Android operating system.

The first phone with

Windows Phone 7 Series will be the Samsung Focus, which hits AT&T Inc. stores Nov. 8 for \$200 with a two-year contract requirement, Microsoft said Monday. It will be closely followed by two more phones for AT&T, made by LG Electronics Inc. and HTC Corp., and one for T-Mobile USA, also made by HTC.

In May, Microsoft launched another new phone software package, Kin, only to yank it about two months later in the face of dismal sales. Windows Phone 7 Series is a different beast, and Microsoft is putting its full weight behind it.

In all, Microsoft announced nine phones for the U.S. market on Monday, including one from Dell Inc., and it has lined up 60 carriers in 30 countries to carry Windows Phone 7.

In the most recent quarter, Microsoft's older system, Windows Mobile, accounted for just 5 percent of the worldwide smart phone market. That compares with 41 percent for Symbian (mainly used by Nokia Corp.), 18 percent for Research in Motion Ltd.'s BlackBerry phones, 17 percent for Android and 14 percent for the iPhone, according to research firm Gartner Inc.

From a hardware standpoint, the Windows 7 phones are indistinguishable from high-end Android phones: They have big touch screens, and a few models have slide-out keyboards.

To stand out from the competition, Microsoft has given the software has a different look. It is partly based on the aesthetic from the company's Zune media players. It is centered around "tiles" on the front screen that are supposed to tell the user at a glance about important new information, such as e-mail and Facebook status update.

For example, a weather program might show a constantly updated snapshot of weather conditions; photo or music libraries would be represented by a recent snapshot or the cover of the last album played on the device.

Both the iPhone and Android are fundamentally more application-centered — the user has to tap on an application to see new information. However, some companies including Motorola Inc. have designed overlay software for Android that's reminiscent of Windows Phone 7's information-at-glance idea. "We want you to get in, get out and back to your life,"

Microsoft CEO Steven Ballmer said at an event in New York. He called it "a very different kind of phone."

The software is designed to work well with Microsoft's cash-cow Office applications and to connect to Xbox Live, the company's online game service. Early word was that Windows Phone 7 would not support copying and pasting of text, but Microsoft announced Monday that the feature would be introduced through a software update early next year.

To make Windows Phone 7 a success, Microsoft has to win over not just phone manufacturers and phone companies, but software developers. The iPhone and Android are popular in part because of the tens of thousands of tiny applications, or "apps," made by outside software developers.

Although there are tens of thousands of applications written for Windows Mobile, they won't work on Windows Phone 7, so Microsoft has to recruit a whole new base of developers. Those developers may not want to devote the resources to build programs for another smart phone system until it gains traction with users. Microsoft showed off apps from game publisher Electronic Arts Inc. and the Internet Movie Database on Monday, but a broader base of developers will be crucial. □

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# Chile alista rescate mineros y inicia prueba cápsulas

**C A M P A M E N T O ESPERANZA,** Chile (Reuters) - El ansiado rescate de los 33 mineros atrapados desde hace más de dos meses en Chile comenzaría la medianoche del martes, luego del éxito en las primeras pruebas con las cápsulas en las que serán subidos a la superficie, estimó el Gobierno.

Durante la madrugada del lunes fue completada la instalación de unos enormes tubos que recubren alrededor de 90 metros de los 622 metros de profundidad del ducto por el cual serán ascendidos y cuya perforación tomó 33 días.

“Los resultados de las pruebas han sido muy promisorios, muy positivos, la cápsula se porta muy bien dentro del ducto”, dijo el lunes el ministro de Minería, Laurence Golborne, a periodistas tras señalar que la cápsula “Fénix 1” fue bajada aproximadamente a 610 metros de profundidad. El funcionario explicó que el vehículo se adaptó bien tanto a las zonas que fueron reforzadas con tubos como a las que se dejaron sin esta medida de seguridad, que busca evitar una desgracia en la última etapa de la operación que permitirá a los mineros

*Venezuela:*

## Gobierno toma empresa productora de fertilizantes

**CARACAS (AP)** - El ministro de Energía venezolano encabezó el lunes la toma de la mayor empresa productora de fertilizantes del país, cuya expropiación fue ordenada por el presidente Hugo Chávez en la víspera.

“Esta es una planta que hemos estado en mucho tiempo en conversaciones sin éxito alguno para que se adaptaran a nuestros requerimientos en el Plan de Desarrollo Nacional”, dijo el ministro de Energía Rafael Ramírez, poco después de su arribo a la principal planta de la empresa Sociedades Mercantiles Fertilizantes Nitrogenados de Oriente (FertiNitro).

“Nosotros a nivel nacional producimos unas 380.000 toneladas de fertilizantes al año (urea), pero esta sola planta produce 1.500.000 toneladas al año”, indicó el ministro, a medios estatales, al resaltar la importancia de la medida.

Las autoridades tomaron control de la planta y otros activos de la empresa, que tiene como accionistas a la estatal Petroquímica de Venezuela SA (35%), la firma estadounidense Koch (35%), la italiana Snamprogetti (20%) y el grupo local privado Empresas Polar.

Chávez anunció el domingo su decisión de expropiar la empresa, a la que acusó de especular con los precios, y dijo que la toma por el estado reduciría los costos de la producción agrícola. No hubo comentarios inmediatos de sus otros propietarios. □



**Una parienta de uno de los 33 hombres atrapados en la mina de cobre San José habla por teléfono en su carpa, en el campamento de familiares que esperan el rescate de los trabajadores. Oct 10, 2010. REUTERS/Luis Hidalgo**

volver a ver la luz tras casi 70 días sobreviviendo entre rocas y tierra.

El presidente Sebastián Piñera -quien se ha involucrado personalmente en la historia- dijo que esperaba visitar la mina el martes luego de regresar de un viaje a Ecuador.

“Ese rescate probablemente va a ser el día miércoles. Pero lo importante no es si es el martes, el miércoles o el jueves, lo

importante es rescatarlos con vida y habiendo tomado todas las medidas para resguardar su seguridad”, dijo Piñera en Quito. El mandatario de Bolivia, Evo Morales, también espera asistir a la culminación de las tareas para sacar a los operarios, entre ellos uno

boliviano.

### LARGOS DIAS DE ESPERA

A medida que se acerca el día del rescate, que según autoridades podría durar dos días, crece la ansiedad y el cansancio entre las familias

y la expectativa de cientos de periodistas locales e internacionales que cubren esta cautivante historia de supervivencia.

“Estoy muy cansada, fueron demasiados días, muchos días de estar haciendo nada, sólo esperando, ahí sentada”, dijo Alicia Campos, la madre del minero Daniel Herrera, y quien será una de las que lo estará esperando cuando sea finalmente rescatado.

Mientras aguarda para recibir una de las raciones de comida que el Gobierno distribuye entre los más de 1.500 habitantes del Campamento Esperanza, que rodea la mina y está copado por los móviles de la prensa, Alicia muestra gestos de dolor.

Aunque expresó que no quiere que su hijo vuelva a pisar una mina, admitió: “Pero no sé qué va a hacer él”. Mientras, tomaba su largo cabello negro y se acomodaba el abrigado sweater que usa para protegerse del frío nocturno del desierto de Atacama, uno de los más áridos del planeta. □

## Perú: alcalde de Lima renuncia por aspiraciones presidenciales

**LIMA (AP)** - El alcalde de Lima, Luis Castañeda Lossio, renunció el lunes para quedar habilitado para presentar su candidatura a la presidencia en los comicios de abril próximo. Castañeda, sin embargo, declinó confirmar plenamente su eventual postulación.

La ley peruana establece que los funcionarios públicos deben renunciar por lo menos seis meses antes de poder participar en procesos electorales.

“Todo a su debido tiempo, todo a su debido momento... Todavía hay un buen trecho para las elecciones presidenciales”, respondió a la emisora Radioprogramas cuando se le preguntó si lanzará su candidatura.

Castañeda, una de las figuras políticas con más posibilidades de acceder al sillón presidencial, según las encuestas, presentó su renuncia en una ceremonia pública el lunes antes las autoridades ediles del municipio capitalino.

En su reemplazo asumirá funciones el

vicealcalde Marco Parra hasta fin de año, cuando entregue el cargo a la ganadora de las elecciones municipales del 3 de octubre pasado.

La autoridad electoral aún no ha proclamado una ganadora entre la izquierdista moderada Susana Villarán, y la conservadora Lourdes Flores, por el apretado margen obtenido por ambas en la votación.

El lunes, un sondeo nacional de la consultora Datum arrojó que Castañeda se ubica en segundo lugar en las preferencias electorales de los peruanos con 21% de intención de voto, después de la congresista Keiko Fujimori, hija del ex presidente Alberto Fujimori (1990-2000) que obtuvo el primer lugar con 23%. En tercer lugar figura el ex presidente Alejandro Toledo (2001-2006) con 14%, y en cuarto el líder opositor nacionalista Ollanta Humala con 12%. La encuesta se hizo del 18 al 27 de setiembre con un universo de 1.420 personas. El margen de error es de 2,7%. □





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